

Declarations

They wanted it to be aspirational
Something to strive for
Freedom is relative, and fluid
It comes and goes with the generations

But there always has to be something to strive for
Something better for the people and their nations to strive for

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in 1948
It is now over 70 years old

She said, “You have to start with empathy, and never lose it.
It’s the only thing that makes love ...
Love that gives, not love that only takes ...
Possible.”

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights
Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person
No one shall be held in slavery or servitude
No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
Everyone has the right to recognition ... everywhere ... as a person before the law
All are equal before the law

She wrote, “Books witness. They tell our stories, about who we are and how we live,
individually and as a people. These books/paintings were about me, and other women
who lived in my time, how we experienced our lives.”

Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression
Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association
The Will of the people ... shall be the basis of the authority of government

But vanity ... kills the will of the people ... and so does deception
All the experiments built upon ego, built upon greed
All the grins without cats ... destined to fail
Because that’s not empathy, that’s not empathy.

Everyone has the right to equal pay for equal work
Everyone has the right to rest and leisure
Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for health and well-being
Everyone has the right to education

I read what he wrote as a young man, then hid away
He became self-centered, but he never wanted to be
He wanted to be his best self, giving and given to, loving and loved ...
He just didn't know how ...

Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality,
and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.
It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious
groups, and shall further peace.

She waited for him, but he never came ...
Some people will always find a way ...
and some people may never find a way
It's how we're born, there's no freewill, that's a ghost, that's a lie

Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community,
to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits
Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth
in this Declaration can be fully realized
Everyone has duties to the community

Near the end, she wrote, "What do I have that I can offer to others? Wanting to know them ...
wanting to understand them."

Bury the rest ... keep only that, keep only her ...
And strive ... strive
To know all other hearts
As well as you know your own