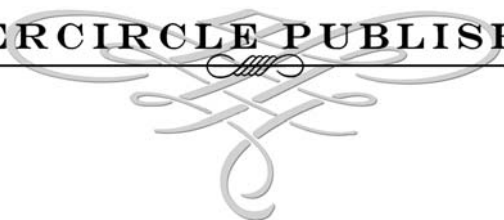


THE SPIRIT WITHIN



SUSAN MARIE RATCLIFFE

INNERCIRCLE PUBLISHING



The Spirit Within

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ISBN: 0-9762974-3-4

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Edition

Cover Illustration by: Stephanie Christine Cashman

Cover design and creation by: Chad Lilly

Typeset / layout design by: Stacy Lilly

A special thank you to Sharon Rose "Corinne" Cappella,
a true poetess of divine talent.

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"Poetry is truly a math of words.
I mine the equation and direct the passages."

-- **Susan Marie Ratcliffe**

Dedications

This book is dedicated to my husband, Billy, faithful friend and soul-mate. He has supported me throughout my endeavor and the long hours spent in writing my manuscript. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Cal State Hayward, California and is a writer.

I also dedicate it to my son, Kyle, who explored with me the realms of life and life's intricate meanings.

And to Sharon Rose Cappella, whose kinship has excelled through our years of sharing each other's muse, our ideas, and our passion for the art of words and knowledge.

And to Chad Lilly and InnerCircle Publishing, who sought out and found my poetry to be everything it was meant to be.



At a Glance

A twinkle in her azure eyes;
All that glitters is blue.
An admirer of sweet sensation
In her feline attitude.



She spends her time
Spreading true
Love that glistens, pure
Love for all the world to see;
Spectrum is her eyes, so ruled...





Sacred Rose

The perfect crimson
Holds still in life's perfection;
Graphic night dreams behold its color,
Rich with darkness, engaged luster.
Secrets are held within its core
Of passion...
Never kept from those intertwined
Inside lovers' spirit cries.



Sacred Rites

Sacred is this starry night,
Shimmering to see;
Shining are these stars tonight,
In all their pageantry.
Collect our thoughts,
Behold our lives;
Blessed is this passage
Given in eternity.





Mistress Moon

She moon sets full, steady,
Studying atop a mountainous peak;
Haunting fluorescent madness
Surrounded by endless bands.

Aura to her soul,
Ritual respect of
A circular romance
Flexing into the
Night stream.



Lasting Bonds



Is not a dream
A diversion of self-realism?
Having and to hold truth projects light
Within a region of ourselves;
To embrace
Carries forward and beyond short stops
In doubt.



Denial subdues the soul,
Depicting habits of hard wear
Ripping two hearts in half.
Believing in grace captivates the audience
In souls surviving the angry mob,
Barring hate and misfortune
As the music sets us free...





Spirit Poet

The art is rhythmic balance,
Breaking silence.
Straight arrows energize,
Sighting strength in prose.
Harmony's link showers us all
From nightfall to horizon,
Letting it flow,
Conjuring thoughts in lamp's even glow.
Call of the word
Beckons our hands,
Inviting wisdom -
Spirit's command.



Focused Rainbow





A collective of
Crafty colors
Concentrated on behalf
Of the sun,
Disturbing the
Rain sensors,
Spreading archway
To the end
Of solace overcast.





Stardom

A spacious ocean sky
Full of charmed
Star lights flashing
As a comet jet-streams
Across a crescent moon,
X-ing its space in time,
Etching the night screen
With pan vision paramount.





Without Question

Should the World find its purpose,
Existence here on EARTH would be enlightened.
Blessings of "PEACE" could unite ALL,
Encouraging life's destiny,
Giving PRAISE to life's
ETERNAL SONG.






Soul Mating




Lips full with unbroken lust,
Yearning for his deepest kiss,
So soothing, intense longing,
Inescapable frenzied bliss.




His strength emerges, solitaire;
Absence only seeks,
Takes root in her memory;
In her, his soul will keep.


Concealed voice within his mind,
Beauty blind is not;
Passions fill her needed want,
Desire shines in hot.



Caress me, please.
Play with my needs; forever
Let us spend;
Enjoy my hunger
With your embrace,
Love, so genuine.



Close in your sex,
Adjoin with mine;
Energies spent,
Undying, divine.



Crimson crept upon her lips
Like that of dappled wine;
At last is found
Not cruelty, but
Sanctuary, not a crime.

