

Tragedy vs. Prosperity

When tragedy strikes,
we look out
for each other;
when prosperity reigns,
we lock up
within ourselves.

Tragedy brings us together
for cooperation;
prosperity pushes us apart
in competition.

Tragedy stimulates
a spiritual adrenalin;
prosperity sinks us
into a moral torpor.

Tragedy calls us
to involvement;
prosperity smothers us
in indifference.

Tragedy evokes
caring and sharing;
prosperity overlooks
the despairing.

Prosperity perverts
our priorities;
tragedy calls us back
to the essentials.

Why does prosperity
lead to complacency,
which is only shattered
by sudden tragedy?

It is tragic
when human solidarity
is awakened only when
devastating disasters
invade our prosperity.

The hungry and destitute,
the diseased and marginalized
do not need an
earthquake or tsunami
to make their lives tragic.

Therefore,
the goal of globalization
should be the mobilization
of prosperity
to alleviate their
daily tragedy.

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