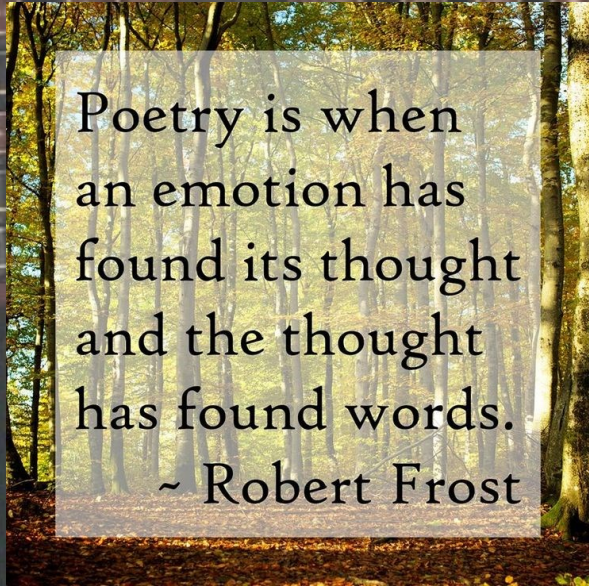


**AUTOBIOGRAPHY
IN
RHYMING POETRY
FIRST EDITION
1993-2012**



Poetry is when
an emotion has
found its thought
and the thought
has found words.
~ Robert Frost

**This booklet is donated by the author to the Fountains at the Carlotta,
A Watermark Retirement Community.**

**All proceeds will go to:
WATERMARK for KIDS**

Watermark for Kids was founded by **David Barnes**,
President of Watermark Retirement Communities.

His inspiration and vision has resulted in an organization
which creates young leaders and helps underserved youth.

**AUTOBIOGRAPHY IN RHYMING POETRY
BY**

**Marie Jose Temmink
310-200-2872
mjtemmink@aol.com
<http://mjtmylifeinrhyme.com>**

I try to capture my life experiences and observations in short rhyming poems to describe my life from memory to memoir.

**These are a selection of poems from the 178 total written till 12-31-2012
Till date(7-1-2022) I have written 1550 poems**



Marie Jose is a contemporary poet, giving the gifts of her memoirs containing jewels of truth from her travels and robust living. Artfully, Marie gives the reader access to her inner life, that of her heart, head and soul. Her repertoire consists of moving experiences from the broad vicissitudes of her journeys through this modern existence. It is a refreshing choice of subjects through which Marie invites us, leading her readers into the inner recesses of friendship, travel, sports, love, career and technology to name a few. And still, she has found place for humor and playful moments that run the gamut of human reality. There is much one can relate to. This reader can faithfully promise you, you will not be bored. But you will be treated to artfully told truth.

Helen Horsey MSW

I was born Maria Josefa Martha Keijzers in 1940 in a small farming community called Wellerlooi in Limburg, The Netherlands.

**I became a Registered Nurse in 1962 in Oldenzaal, The Netherlands
I married my first husband Gerhard John Temmink in 1963
and emigrated together to the USA in 1964
I have lived in California since.**

I have two daughters, Daphne and Colette.

I received my permanent California RN license in 1969 through USC Medical Center.

**My Nursing Home Administrator license in 1973 through UCLA.
My California State Adult Teaching Credential in 1974 thru Baldwin Park Unified school district.**

My Public Health Nurse certification in 1984 through Cal State Fullerton.

**I have spend my entire nursing career
in Long Term and Home Health Care.**

**My first husband, Gerhard John, died unexpectedly on
Sunday April 26 1992 at the age of 55.**

In his memory with the help of my daughters Daphne and Colette

**I started my own Home Health Staffing Agency
“Associated Home Health Nurses of America” Inc.**

**in August 1992 in Long Beach, CA ,
including 2 subdivisions:**

**“Neighborhood Home Health Services”
a licensed Home Health Agency,**

and

**“Neighborhood Senior Care”
an in-Home Supportive Services Agency.**

**I married my second Husband Frans Verschoor on February 8 1999
on a Grand Pacific Princess Caribbean Cruise
with 63 family members and friends attending**

**I have two stepchildren Gerhard and Anneke
Frans retired as VP of a Pacific Theaters subdivision
and after 15 successful years**

**We closed the business, sold the building and
retired on 2-9-2007**

We traveled and enjoyed our Dutch home.

**Frans died on 2-2-2010 after a short illness at the age of 80
I then traveled the world extensively till for health reasons I
decided to search for the perfect Independent Living Facility and
moved to the Fountains at the Carlotta in Palm Desert in June 2018**

**Now, I spend my time writing in my diary,
“ Day By Day By Marie Jose”**

**05-01-1993 I wrote my first poem a year after my first husbands
unexpected death on 4-25-1992**

HALF OF “WE” / “VERSUS ME”

**How and were did I find the strength...
To live without you for any length.**

**You have been gone for more then a year...
But I feel in whatever I do you still are near.**

**For nearly thirty years it was always...
“We” versus “Me”**

**Slowly but solid had you and I become “We”...
Life did not seem possible without you for “Me”.**

**But somehow you gave me the strength to pursue the dreams of “We”
And somehow I still feel your guidance and love that I can do so as “Me”**

**I will always treasure the gift of you in “We”...
That evolved in a stronger “Me”.**

**I have accepted your early departure from here...
Knowing that your spirit remains near.**

**I can face the future again as “Me”
Versus half of ‘We”**



Marie Jose Temmink

12-6-1994

**Frans Verschoor
Named V.P. of
Mini-Pac**

Frans Verschoor, an 18-year veteran of Pacific Theatres, has been promoted to vice president of Mini-Pac, Inc., a sister company of Pacific Theatres.

For the past 9 years Verschoor has been director of operations and project development of Mini-Pac, where he oversees the operation of two very successful state-of-the-art self storage facilities and a 165,000 square foot multi-tenant industrial park. Prior to that, he supervised Pacific's theatres in Germany and later became director of purchasing for the entire chain.



**This wonderful guy..
Seemed to fall out of the sky**

**We seemed to have a meeting of the mind...
Wen I met this gentleman that appeared very kind...**

**During a greeting...
Of the Dutch American Business Association meeting.**

**His silent question :
What does she see in me ?**

My silent answers:

**Objective: An attractive attentive gentleman
An individual who can show his emotion
An individual who can think positive as a widower after
Dealing with the biggest loss in life.**

**Subjective: Meeting of the minds, a feeling of having known you for a
long time.
A desire to get to know you more.
And feeling happy being with you.**



Marie Jose Temmink

**10-29-2011 My second poem I wrote after my second husband
died on 02-02-2010**

MOON FACE

**The moon shines bright...
On my bed at night.**

I see the profile of a face very clear...I know my love is near.

Even when there is a haze...I still see his face.

I sense that people that have died...Never hide.

**Their spirit can appear...
When you want them to be near.**

**They can be with you...
If you want them to.**

**Maybe I always expected,...
For him to stay connected.**

**I have accepted he is no longer here,...
But he and I know he remains near.**

**And I no longer need to grieve...Because when it is time for me to
leave...**

I know he will wait...For me at the gate.

To live forever in harmony...With all our family.



Marie Jose Temmink

10-29-2011

BIRDS

After people die...They reappear in the sky.

You can take my word...They appear as a bird.

They can be my guide...When I go for a ride.

They follow me when I walk...And chirp as if they talk.

They are within reach...While I walk on the beach.

And they fly real low,...Past every window.

It was very sad...When a bird alerted me about the passing of my Dad.

And etched in my memory...Is the bird on my balcony.

It was the spirit of John...After he was gone.

I remember the bird with the passing of my Mother...
And the bird at the death of my oldest brother.

I remember the bird as no other...
At the death of my youngest brother.

It was a bird that tried to let me know...
That soon my sister would go.

And now Frans is no longer here...
But as a bird remains near.

It all sounds hard to believe...
But you will understand when you grieve.

Alone I will never be...
The birds are always there for me.

To comfort me in my sorrow...
So I can face tomorrow.



Marie Jose Temmink

10-30-2011

Started my traveling years

TRAVELING TEACHERS

**I traveled to Santiago in Chili...
And met a group that acted a bit silly.**

**Because when we crossed borders...
I noticed some travelers were used to giving orders.**

**And they seemed to expect more...
Than what they had paid for.**

This was to cold. that was to hot...Giving a compliment they did not.

They sounded as preachers. It was obvious they had been teachers.

**But they seemed amazed...
That their pupils also had aged.**

**Because as they continued to mention...
No one paid attention.**



For them it was hard to accept...That no one paid respect.

To what they demanded before...But existed no more.

However, they got the tip...Before the end of the trip.

That pupils can be bold...By the time they get old.

We listened before...But need help no more.

So relax and give no more orders...On how to pass the borders.

**When we were young you did your best,
We are now capable of doing the rest.**

Marie Jose Temmink

11-23-2011

FARE WELL

**I am thankful writing this poem...
As I have no reason to moan.**

**All humans share...
To arrive here bare.**

**And all humans know...
There comes a time to go.**

**It matters in between these two...
What we do.**

**I always did my best...
And had trust in God to do the rest.**

**When I depart from here...
I soon will be near...**

**Everyone who left here before...
As they are waiting at the door.**

**So do not mourn for me...
As our separation will only be temporarily.**



Marie Jose Temmink

11-17-2011 .

LETTING GO

**We all know...
That we are expected to let go.**

**And that for the things we have a passion...
Can be taken away in a chaotic fashion.**

**We can make a list of things most dear...
But it is never clear...**

**Why it is not seldom...
That your most dearest are taken at ran-
dom.**

**One by one they depart...
And leave us with a broken heart.**

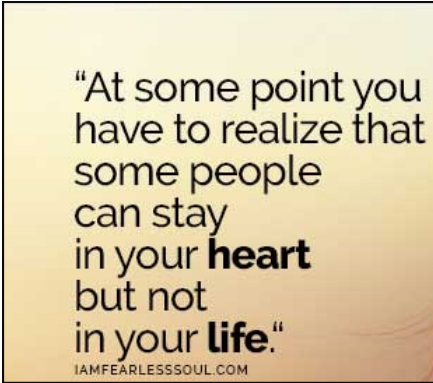
**We have no control...
But to mend our soul.**

**And recognize life will never be the same...
And at times it is hard to stay sane.**

**And while we have no zest...
We must do our best.**

**To continue with life as before...
While our heart is still sore.**

**And after saying goodbye
Again appreciate the good things still nearby**



**"At some point you
have to realize that
some people
can stay
in your **heart**
but not
in your **life**."**

IAMFEARLESSSOUL.COM

Marie Jose Temmink

11-30-2011

HIS COAT

All that is left of him to touch...
Is his coat he loved so much.

I shed many tears...
On his coat in these last few years.

I greet it when I arrive and again when I leave...
But all I feel is this empty sleeve.

At times life felt very dim...
Having only this coat left of him.

But then I selected...
Thru his coat to stay connected.

And since I feel stronger...
I might need it no longer.

But for now I feel it is still smart...
To still keep it close to my heart.

To move it would not be wise...
Until I can do so with dry eyes.



Marie Jose Temmink

11-30-2011

DAILY WALK

**I do my thing to prevent death...
When each day I take a deep breath.**

**On my daily walk...
Without any talk.**

**A path is always within reach...
In the Desert or on the Beach.**

**It helps me not to care...
About disappointments here or there.**

**There is much to be said...
For clearing ones head.**

**And recognize that health...
Is more precious then wealth.**

**For me a perfect time...
To think about the next rhyme.**

**It curbs my desire for food...
And puts me in a good mood.**

**Happy I will always be...
As the wind and birds follow me.**

**While I walk...
Without talk.**



Marie Jose Temmink

12-02 2011

LIFE

**The union of a sperm and egg at the start...
Creates, we hope another healthy heart.**

**And we wonder and guess...
What will become of this body of flesh.**

**We want to be healthy...
And may strive to be wealthy.**

**But the first rule...
Is that we finish school.**

**To make a living...
Focus less on receiving and more on giving.**

Never stop learning...To increase your earning.

**And in your teens...
Start living within your means.**

**Because if at a young age you don't...
For sure when you are older you wont.**

**Don't join or start a cult...
When you are a young adult.**

**And wonder why and who...
Would ever want a tattoo.**

Let others be a witness...To your health and fitness.

Enjoy life every day...And chase the blues away.

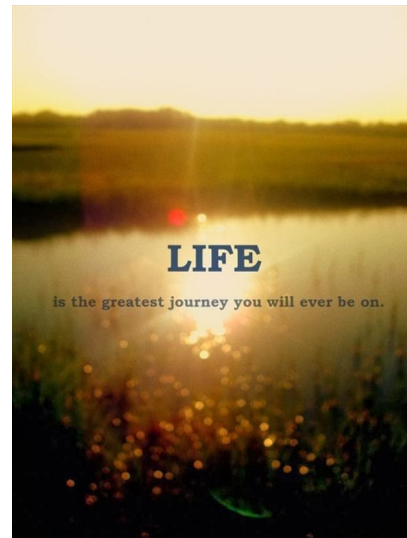
Because you will be amazed...How fast you have aged.

Then travel thru this stage not to fast...Because for sure it will not last.

Be thankful and yes sing a song...Because you have lived this long

Maybe we can expect...To reconnect

And to not miss...A life after this.



Marie Jose Temmink

12-05-2011

WRITING

**My heart screams out loud...
The subjects I want to write about.**

**And what is on my mind...
Is not always kind.**

**But I cannot say nay...
To what I want to say.**

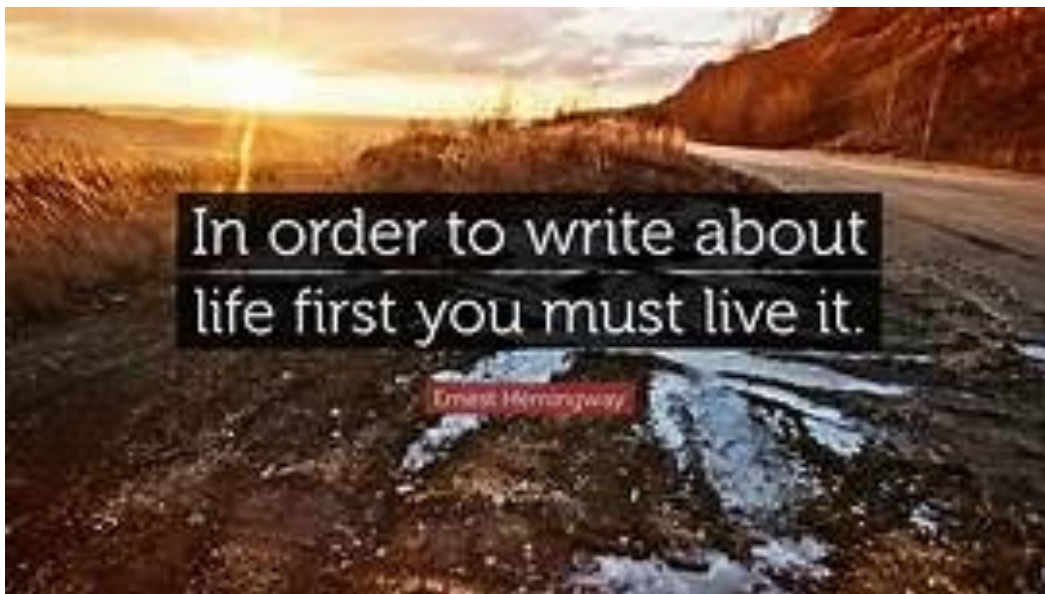
**I have all day now to think...
And write a poem in a wink.**

**And so I breeze thru the day..
While writing what I want to say.**

**And to share it with most...
Everyone can read for free what I post.**

**It is meant to be...
To set my soul free.**

Marie Jose Temmink



12-11-2011

MY DAUGHTERS

**Because both were created by WE...
There was never a favored one for me.**

**WE were so happy when they came...
And always provided for them the same.**

**At times it would have been convenient...
But we tried not to be to lenient,**

**They know that for the most part...
They were raised with a loving heart.**

**Dad already knew...
Before he died unexpectedly in 1992...**

**That we did not goof...
The result was already in the proof...**

**Two loving daughters that are very efficient...
But most of all independent and self sufficient.**

**They show concern and love for others in need...
And are always ready for a good deed.**

**I am proud to say...
I love them dearly day to day.**

**And I know they will not forget it...
When I am old and decrepit.**

**They will arrange care for their Mother...
I know... like no other.**



Marie Jose Temmink

12-13-2011

MOURNING

**On the day your loved is pronounced death...you will wildly bewildered
get alone into your bed.**

**No one can ever imagine the pain...
If they have not experienced the same.**

**The gut wrenching tidiness in your chest...
Is debilitating and nauseous at best.**

And for some...An experience comparable to none.

Everything aches...While you tremble on your legs.

You want to scream very loud...And hope to pass out.

Because you did never expect...That his death you had to accept.

**And after the first dark and painful night...
You do not want to see the morning light.**

As with the start of that first morning...You will be in mourning.

**Whatever you cherished together in life before...
You know will be no more.**

**It becomes easier to accept as time goes on...
But the ache will never be completely gone.**

But at some point you again will arise...From this horrible demise.

And while you work and strive...To accept this new face in life

**You learn to cope and accept.. .
That your loved one will not return from his death.**

**His memory has found a permanent place in your heart.
And encourages and helps you to make a new start**

Marie Jose Temmink

12-13-2011

TRAVEL

**This world was created by God...
Who expects us to enjoy it a lot.**

**From every corner and nook...
He created a different look.**

**For us to explore...
And stay home no more.**

**But take a vacation. ..
And experience his creation.**

**Admire what is out there...
And get to understand cultures every
where.**

**Because every thing new...
Expands your view.**

**It enriches your mind...
And encourages one to be kind.**

**To understand what you have and can give...
So everyone on earth can live.**

**A decent life from birth...
Till he dies on this earth.**

**Tourism promotes this I know...
I will do my part and often be on the go.**



Marie Jose Temmink

12-21-2011

FRIENDS

**Friends you need, so look and seek...
Treat them as treasures for life to keep.**

**But for Gods sake...
Do not keep the ones that drain you or are fake.**

**You should fear...
People that are not sincere.**

**Because it is a must...
To have friends you can trust.**

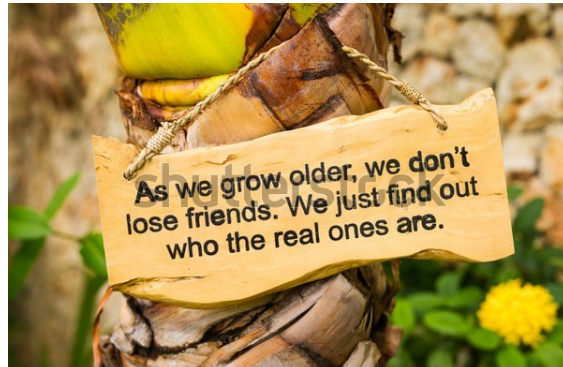
**We are not meant...
To call everyone a friend.**

**Most people in life you know...
Come as easy as they go.**

**And out of the whole slew...
There are only a few.**

**That are meant...
To be your friend.**

**So do your best to not loose...
That real friend you were able to choose.**



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Marie Jose Temmink

12-21-2011

STRENGTH

**I thank my parents at length...
For inheriting their strength.**

**I relied on it many times to cope...
When I seemed to be at the end of my rope.**

**I was the last born in my family...
And often exposed to older members agony.**

**I observed early on...
How people coped when some one was for ever gone.**

**And how they recouped from deceit...
And dealt with some ones greed.**

**I continue to practice their coping skills and hope...
That I will always be able to cope.**

**And that I can deal...
With every thing till again I heal.**

**In the meantime I pray...
That more good then bad things come my way.**

It has long seemed to me
that it would be more
honorable to our ancestors
to praise them in words
less, but in deeds to
imitate them more.

Horace Mann

PICTUREQUOTES.COM

Marie Jose Temmink

12-23-2011.

LIVING WELL

**When we are born we have an expire date...
It may be early or it may be late.**

**Mortality is what we must accept...
Before we can live and reflect.**

**Where did we come from and were do we go...
Every human wants to know.**

**It is very plain...
The mystery will remain.**

**As I have not met...
Anyone that escaped death.**

**So live every day as it may be your last...
Because life can slip by very fast.**

Marie Jose Temmink

12-26-2011

MY VIEW

**I live in a condo fifteen stories high...
Where guest upon arrival exclaim "O My"**

**It is unbelievable how far I can see...
This view from every window around me.**

**I feel safe, comfortable and well,
In this condo I might never sell.**

**The mountains look within reach...
From my condo on the beach.**

**From where I can see very clear,
To think Catalina Island, the Getty museum and Big Bear are very near.**

**Even though there is 150 miles in between...
The distances that can be seen.**

**The Majestic mountain range..
From Santa Monica, Baldy Laguna and
Saddleback will never change.**

**I see Signal Hill, Hollywood and L.A...
With no other high rise in the way.**

**The sunset in its mesmerizing glory..
Inspires me to write another story.**

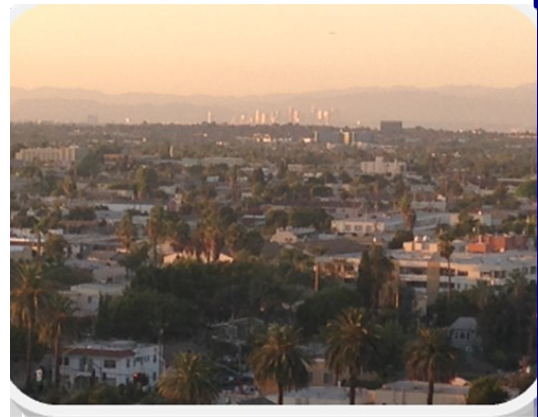
**And each day has an unforgettable sight...
When I awaken to the Tuscany like morning light.**

And every evening when the sun sets...I tell my self to never forget.

How fortunate I am to live here...With all these sights so near and clear.

**Where during the night each and every lit up spark...
Prevents it from ever being real dark.**

**One can understand when I say...I love my home in the Long Beach bay.
Marie Jose Temmink**



12-28-2011

DESERT

At my initial impression in 1965...
I wondered how did anyone here survive.

I grew up in Holland with water around me everywhere...
And I was used to it raining often over there.

But as we visited the desert more often...My dislike seemed to soften

Because the magic in this air...I had not experienced anywhere.

So when we looked for a second home in 1988...
We bought in the desert behind a guarded gate.

And we observed and saw...
That everyone here experiences this draw.

And people gained so much..
From this magical touch.

A feeling no one can explain...
But far more soothing than the Dutch rain.

A place I spend many weekends with my mate...
To rest and regenerate.

And soak up at length...This magical strength.

And even now being here alone...I feel in a comfort zone.

People come here to retire...And continually admire

The desert mystic and sunny weather...
That does not exist anywhere better.

As long as I feel so well...Also this home I will not sell.



Marie Jose Temmink

12-30-2011

FARM LIFE

**It did me more good than harm...
To grow up on a farm.**

**My parents believed the best credentials...
For me was to learn the essentials.**



**Around the clock there was work to be done...
In rain, snow, wind or sun.**

**We raised pigs, chickens, horses and milked many cows by hand...
We grew a variety of grains, corn and beets on the land.**

**There was plowing, raking reaping and much more...
And we often worked till our muscles were sore.**

**All week we did our very best...
And looked forward to Sunday, the day to go to church, meet people and rest.**

**Wearing our Sunday dress really elevated our mood...
And we always enjoyed my Mothers Sunday food**

**When I was real young, I often wondered why... My Father wore on Sunday all day a suit
and tie.**

But I soon learned that my Father and Mother...Made sure Sunday was a day like no other.

Our farm received all sorts...Of different awards.

**For the best producing cows, and my brother was always able...
To get the award for the best looking stable.**

Cleaning everything in Spring,...Was much more than a fling.

**My parents had the final look...
That the house and farm was cleaned and repaired in every nook.**

We were taught early in life to care...And to be wasteful we did not dare.

**And for extra wants and luxury needs...We were expected to do more work or pick more
weeds.**

We learned to be wise...And that everything had a price...

But we were always lead...In getting ahead.

And without pretension...To reach our potential without apprehension.

Till now this down to earth life on the farm....Has brought me more good then harm

Marie Jose Temmink

12-30-2011 **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

*After dealing with the loss of my dear Frans in 2010...
I regained my strength in 2011 again.*

*But again this year I am sad to say...
More family and friends went away.*

*At my age there is no need to wonder why...
We have to say so often goodbye.*

*But I am very thankful for every one dear..
That is still near.*

*And the year 2011 for me ...
Went by better then I had it expected to be.*

*In January I was able to be alone ..
for the first time in my Desert home..*

*And it was stunning ...
To see the twins for the first time running*

*February brought much fun...
With family in the Florida sun.*

*In March it was no bother...
To help find a home in Phoenix for Colette my daughter.*

*In April there was no need to grieve...
As I helped Colette and family prepare to leave.*

*As I still see the boys often play...
When we meet in the Desert half way.*

*And in May, Hooray,!
I became a citizen of the USA.*

*Family and friends were very clever...
In organizing my first surprise party ever.*

CONT.

*In June, I got to see...
that Ashley did not inherit her art skills from me.!*

And I must say...I was amazed at her display...

*July, Three weeks with Daphne and Ashley of driving thru the
USA ...*

For Ashley to select a university she might stay.

August. Again I was gone...

This time on a driving trip to Seattle with Jacky and John.

We drove there ...

To not miss the wedding of Steve and Anne-Clair .

I went to Holland in September...for a family reunion to remember.

Where I received and had a first look ...

At Fon's published Temmink Family History Book.

In October I took a trip to Chile and Argentina ...

with my sister in law Ans via Lima.

*In November to a funeral in Holland of another family member I
will miss*

And while there spend many hours by the fireplace to reminisce .

In December on Xmas Eve I know I will admire...

Daphne's first solo in the Church choir.

Cancer till now on hold...

Encouraged plans for 2012 that are bold.

To cruise and write while I will be...For 70 days at sea.

*Looking forward to hearing from you and wishing your family and
yourself ...The very best for 2012.*

Marie Jose Temmink

12-30-2011

GOLF

Quietly the carts roll by in front of my patio...
That keep the golfers on the go.



Across the beautiful greens...That are always manicured it seems.

A sport for young man and old...From baby face to being bold.

A sport for any woman that is fit...And likes to move rather than sit.

A sport for everyone it is not...As it cost a lot.

You are required to look smart...-In your clothing, shoes and cart.

And you have no chance to win, Without the right balls in your bin.

And one can not make a gain...If you do not have an expensive club to aim.

And if they do not make a right hit...I hear an occasional soft 'o shit!'

Because protocol is one cannot shout...Or even speak too loud.

Golf is not the same...Unless it is a competitive game.

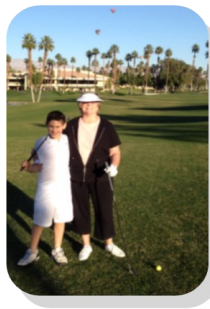
I never had enough yearning...To spend more time on learning.

I am now too old to start...And therefore no longer have use for my cart.

I waited till when...My grandson was ten.

To give him the cart with clubs and balls.. And move it between their garage walls.

We will continue an occasional three generation game for the fun...
Here in the desert sun.



And for years Ethan will look smart...-
Driving Oma's old golf cart .

Marie Jose Temmink

01-05-2012

CRUISING

From Princess Cruise Line I received an e-mail...
They wanted to know why I like to sail.



Well, that is easy to say...For me it is the only way.

To travel the globe and have fun...Somewhere in the sun.

I always plan not to gain but loose...On a short or extended cruise.

Of course that is not realistic...But it does not make me pessimistic

On board I can use every day the gym...And try to stay slim.

After I became a widow I met a widower and instead of tying the knot in
1999 on land...

We planned the event on The Princess ship called The Grand,

We invited 63 guest...And Princess did the rest.

Our children lived across the globe...And they answered our hope...

That on a ship they would have time to get to know each other...
As sisters and brother.

We celebrated our fifth anniversary with 32 guest in 2004...
On the same ship as before.

And the tenth anniversary in 2009...Was just as terrific and fine.

Again everyone dear...Had a stateroom near.

We cruised Europe, Russia, The Orient, Alaska Panama and Bahamas on
each other side...Before my beloved husband died.

Now I hope not to feel alone...When I cruise for the first time alone,

I will soon be 60 days on the Pacific...And expect it to be terrific,

To relax, explore, write and rest—While again experiencing the best.

Cruising for me I can say...Has become the only way

To travel in comfort style and fun,...Across the globe in the sun

In the future I hope you will see...Me often on a Princess ship at sea.

Marie Jose Temmink

01-11-2012

MEMORY LOSS

**She and her mate...
Both look great.**

They feel fit and strong...But her short term memory is gone.

And between me and you...Her long term memory to.

Therefore in any setting...She apologizes for forgetting.

**Life for them is no longer the same...
He is embarrassed when she keeps asking why I came.**

**She answers herself and says, but my dear...
I am so glad you are here.**

**She can still put on a show...
And physically be on the go.**

**But wherever they go in this land...
He has to hold her hand.**

**Without him being her guide...
She does not know to turn left or right.**



He chuckles she can still be a witch ...When they play bridge.

She can make a slam out of the blue...But only after he gives her a clue.

Her day is sleeping till midday...As there is little more for them to say.

**He takes her to lunch every mid afternoon...
But they are home again soon.**

**To spend the evening watching TV...
And count their blessings she can still hear and see.**

It is heartwarming to see ...How happy this couple seems to be.

**His only hope is to live longer then she...
And for her to enter heaven before he.**

Marie Jose Temmink

01-11-2012

PASHA

**Pasha, we named our first dog in the USA...
And she lived sixteen years to the day.**

**A handful of fur, beige and white...
A tiny creature that slept in the beginning day and night.**

**Full grown she was still tiny...
But always healthy and her coat very shiny.**

**She was always on guard...
And barked as a Saint Bernard.**

**Not to let strangers near...
As she had no fear.**

**In grabbing some ones pants...
Or biting a strangers hand.**

**She would Yap till her bark was hoarse...
Always to protect us of course.**

**Her diet was one hotdog a day.
And she was never sick, what can I say.**

**A tiny Chihuahua with a big dog bark...
That chased coyotes away in the dark.**

**The master of house and yard...
Our Pasha so very smart.**

**When she died it was clear...
No dog for us would ever be so dear.**



Marie Jose Temmink

01-18-2012

ASHLEY MARIE

Dear granddaughter Ashley Marie...I am so proud you were named after me

And it is an honor instead of a bother...To write about you, my only granddaughter.

I know you will never hide...Being 100% Dutch on your Mothers side

A fact that no one can twist...Is your back to 1400 Ancestors list

I was ecstatic driving to the hospital, all the way...
When you entered the world on Christmas day.

And I was thrilled to meet...Your perfect body so complete

I was sorry your parents relationship was torn...Soon after you were born.

And due to lack of harmony...You could not live with just one family.

And I often said out loud, O lord...
Why must this child be shuttled each week back and forth.

I prayed that God would give you the strength...To deal with all this at length.

But early on you were mature, and your mind remained open and wide...
And you took it all in stride.

Opa adored you and we often verbalized out loud
That we were, and I am, so very proud

Of your demeanor, dedication spirit and love...Of which you always seem to have enough

You spread Good will all around...A granddaughter like you is not easily found.

Ashley I admire and love you very much...And know you will always keep in touch.

I am pleased, and to you I bow.. For how you have lived your life until now

Your future will not be a demise...Because you have always been very wise

Only you will know what is best for you ...
Even though others might think so to.

Ashley whatever will be...
You can depend on a loving and trusting bond between you and me.

With love always, OMA.

Marie Jose Temmink



01-11-2012

ALWAYS HERE

**Since you remain near...
I knew you would also meet me here.**

**And thru the glass...
You give me support in my first writing class.**

**You landed in front of me...
To be here as WE.**

**You stand there and look...
I read you as an open book.**

**I can be anywhere...
Knowing you will meet me there.**

**And again today...
You did not lead me astray.**

**Even though the words out of your mouth...
Are no longer loud.**

**I hear every word you say and think...
Knowing that forever we will keep this link .**

**We both know we are together,
Forever.**

Marie Jose Temmink

01-19-2012

WHEELS THRU THE YEARS

- 1962 Gerard drove his Fathers car...To come and see me from a far.
As a nurse in these days it was befitting...To drive my Vespa
if the weather was permitting.
- 1963 We were happy to go...On our honeymoon in our
red 1960 Volvo.
- 1964 We came to the USA in 1964 and we had to forego..
Our brand new white Peugeot.
My brother in law, our sponsor, thought looking frisky
Driving cross country was to risky.
So from then on you could see...Us driving in a beige
second hand Ford Galaxy.
- 1967 What a bang...When we bought a yellow Ford Mustang.
- 1968 I drove the kids in guess what...We bought for \$150.00 a
very tiny white Fiat
- 1969 We looked for awhile... And bought a motorhome to travel
In style
- 1970 I used to glide...In a Ford Torino that was red inside and
on the outside white.
- 1972 You could see...Gerard in a new Ford LTD.
- 1975 What did I see...Gerard surprised me with a beige MB 450SLC
- 1976 We drove away...In a new four door Cadillac that was grey
- 1979 A new Cadillac for a lot of dollars...Witch had two shades
of chocolate brown colors
- 1982 John Temmink Constr.. was prosperous and had
John driving a yellow Toyota truck
- 1984 For more space we thought we had a need...And bought
a new motorhome of 32 feet
- 1986 We loved to drive far ...In our new red four door Jaguar
- 1989 Gerard looked smart ...In his brand new golf-cart
- 1990 A MB 350 in white...And beautiful beige inside
- 1995 I had to take a big leap...To get in Frans' white Cherokee jeep
- 1995 Another Jaguar in white...With a beige interior that was
1996 very light.
- 1998 We ...Bought a MB SUV
- 2004 A Lexus SUV was the choice...And it really started without
any noise.
- 2008 We retired and looked nifty... in a MB 350 and Frans a MB 550
- 2010 I drive The MB 550 and I will wait and see...
How long in this car I will be.

Marie Jose Temmink

02-01-2012

ANNEKE

**February 4 you were born in Holland on a cold winter day...
And you were lucky your parents decided not to stay**

**They probably realized that for you it would be more fun...
To forever live in the sun.**

**Because I have been told.. .
That for you even Florida is sometimes to cold.**

**Anneke, I am so sorry you lost your Mother. ..
As she can never be replaced by no other.**

**But I sensed you were again glad...
When your Dad was no longer sad.**

**And because of our love for each other...
I became your step mother.**

**But the “step” does not bother
I feel as if you are my daughter.**

**Happy birthday Anneke and I came to have fun...
With you and your family In the Florida sun.**

Marie Jose Temmink-Verschoor

02-01-2012

CHEMO

**A very scary word already for a long time is cancer...
For which in the near future likely there will be no answer.**

You feel brutally hit...When you are supposedly diagnosed with it.

You feel the anguish all over...And hope the person that tells you is not sober.

Cancer? How could that be...Just look at me.

I feel fine, I am not sick and feel no pain...Hearing this news sounds insane.

For goodness sake...this must be a mistake,

What can I do or how long will I live...Of course an answer no one will give.

How can this be...And why must it be me.

Oncology suggesting dangerous drugs...Seem to have ties with pharmaceutical industry thugs.

I grieve...because they try to force you to believe,

And they hope you are sold...On the scare tactics you are being told.

It is not about you, but the money I swear...

And who cares when your body is destroyed or damaged beyond repair.

They do assure you there is no guarantee for a cure at all...

But you better do as they say. or the chance to live is very small.

The cost is obscene and your misery...

Is meant to bring in big dollars for the drug industry.

Do not expect they will look for a cure...

It would prevent them from making money for sure.

A change we do not need to expect...As in the dark we will be kept.

The focus is not on a cure...But finding more cases for sure.

The risk of dying without treatment is not discussed as you sit and wait...

They are off to another room where money can be made

But more and more class action suits arise...Of patients that cope with their demise.

And to all who suffer and are sickly...A small amount is paid very quickly.

And the atrocity goes on...Until reality will don...

**Onto the public that will start refusing to take killing drugs...
That are legally pushed by unscrupulous thugs**

To enhance their fancy lifestyle...While you are dying all the while.

I am glad I escaped this strong force...And chose my own treatment course.

Because I know I would not feel as well or be the same...Had I entered this slow killing chain.

**After ones death your loved ones will get the answer
As the death certificate will read "died of Cancer"**

But most of the time it is a sure bet.. That was not the actual cause of death

**Because then there would be proof that the cause of death...
Was a serious chemo side effect.**

I know for sure...I will not have chemo till there is a definite cure.

And until there is some guarantee ...We are better off to flee.

**From the ones that have no problem seeing...
The slow agonizing death of your being.**

I believe in the tale of the old wife... that said living means more then being alive.

life is not about how many breaths we take...But what we enjoy while alert and awake.

Dying with dignity is every ones right...But till now only animals can painlessly disappear from our sight.

**Keeping your body in the best of shape might be your answer...
To add extra days when diagnosed with cancer.**

Because chemicals will destroy your strength ...To deal with this at length.

As a patient and a nurse...I am disappointed how the medical world treats this curse.

Marie Jose Temmink

O2-01-2012

FRANCESCA'S TRAVELS

..

**What made you decide...
To travel alone for four months
without a guide.**

**The first day...
Already a delay.**

**But you took it in stride.. .
As you gained in Lisbon an extra day
and night.**

**Francesca it must be in your DNA...
To travel alone so far away.**

**And with your drive...
It can be the experience of your life.**

**Because once you leave it all behind...
You have enriched for ever
your mind.**

**I trust from time to time you
will hear...
A voice from afar but very near.**

**Your Bempa saying out loud...
Francesca I am so very proud.**

**I know your time will be swell.
Be safe, always, and stay well.**

Love Always, Oma



Marie-Jose Temmink

02-07-2012

DRUGS

**Drugs is the biggest industry in the USA...
Because most people swallow them everyday.**

**The industry has made big gains...
Because of brain washing advertising campaigns.**

**There is a pill for every need...
That works with a blinding speed.**

To get well...And make you feel swell

No need to suffer...just take a buffer.

And just in case it has no effect...Or does not do what you expect...

Or you get sicker then ever before...And really can take it no more...

**You can join a class action suit. ..
And get a promise to get a fraction of a small loot.**

**It seems no generation before in history...
Has felt this much pain and misery.**

**We are reminded all day long what could hurt...
The push for drugs has become absurd.**

**We used to have Thrifty drug store, But No more
Now you can buy drugs in almost every store.**

But beware and do not believe...Buying these chemicals will give you relief

**The drug industry promotes for their gain...
And reminds you to feel every little pain.**

But these expensive chemicals... Are poison and no essentials.

**So endure a little ache or pain...
Treat your body well and halt the obscene drug industry gain**

Marie Jose Temmink

02-08-2012

APPRECIATION

**The quality evening last night at your home,
Broke for me the chain of often being alone.**

**It was a very pleasant kick,
To be with you both and Rick.**

**And even with a painful arm and foot,
You created a dinner that was very good.**

**It was special to celebrate another year,
With my best friends so near.**

**The cake was delicious and while blowing the candles, my wish:
Was having more evenings like this.**

**Quality time ,good health and cheer
With people I love and live here**

**At the Ocean Club in Long Beach,
That are always within reach**

**I appreciate every bit
Of the things you do and did.**

**And remember I am here for you
If there is anything I can do.**

Marie Jose Temmink

02-18-2012

SUNRISE

Ever so slowly the red glow appears across the sea...
This view from my bedroom window is only visible by me.

I treasure this glorious way...
Of the beginning of each day.

In the past I have learned no matter what my concern...
Any previous day will not return.

And my departed loved ones and family...
Can only remain in my mind as a memory.

And I would not be very wise...
If I believed for sure the sun again tomorrow will rise.

But for today the sun is here...
With many possibilities that are clear.

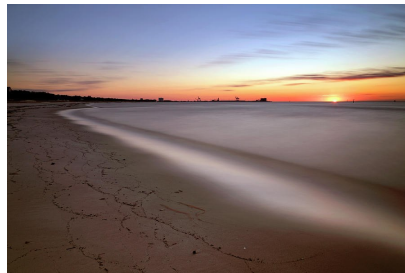
While I seem to hear a voice...
That tells me I have a choice.

To be and see everything very negative...
Or tell myself I will be positive.

I choose the latter and will do my best...
To live this day with renewed zest.

And be thankful for this glorious morning...
That helps me deal with my mourning.

I accept the past is gone, the future unclear...
But I have a chance to make the best of this day that is here.



Marie Jose Temmink

02-22-2012

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DAUGHTER

**This is the way it went:
You were born blond of Dutch decent.**



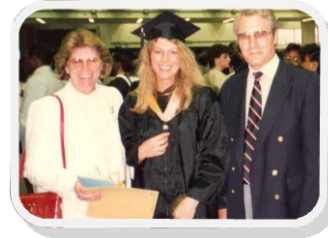
**When after one night late...
You were conceived in Washington State.**

**And now remembering the past...
I realize you grew up to fast.**

**Because you brought us so much laughter and joy...
As our little Tomboy.**

**You loved your horses Skipper and Paula Poo...
Your dogs, cats, birds and moped too.**

**Then you decided to leave the fun...
In the California sun.**



**To pursue education and career...
Starting in a college that was not near.**

**We were very proud when you received your
masters degree...
At American University in Washington DC**



**Your career took off from there...
While you moved and traveled everywhere.**

**Now you are happy I can see...
In Phoenix with your lovely family.**

**While you pursue your PHD...
Which does not leave much time to be free.**

**But what can I say,
You inherited this drive. It is in your DNA**

**Colette I love you, and wish you many more years. .
With much happiness and laughter, good health and minimal tears.**

Love, Mom

Marie Jose Temmink

02-22-2012

WAGON TRAIN LANE

While out for dinner, on a napkin we drew the plans...
Because we were lucky to have a chance.



To buy the perfect lot with a view...
And built our dream home, yes, brand new.

At the time it seemed far...To move to the “Country” in Diamond Bar.

We had decided on a place to keep horses close by...
And had searched the valley low and high.

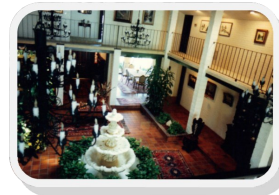


“The Country” was a dream come true...
Because the equestrian center was big and brand new.

To create the home took some time...The finished project was ever so fine.

A home, very unique...6400 square feet of country chic

On top of its own hill with a 180 degree view...
The furniture a mixture of antiques and new.



A long driveway that bend...By the large aviary at the end.

An orchard with 40 different trees down the hill...
And viewing the valley especially at night was a thrill

A perfect home to entertain in style...
And were guest loved to stay for awhile.



A gourmet kitchen, hobby room, office and a gym
And a large pool with fountains for a swim.

After the children finished school and moved away...
The home seemed to big for the two of us to stay.

They thought we were very wise...When we decided to downsize.

So we left this creation...To face a new chapter in life with anticipation.

To experience a new thrill
Hopefully as good as “our home” on this hill

Marie Jose Temmink

02-25-2012

LONG BEACH TO AUCKLAND NEW ZEALAND

At 6 pm we left from Long Beach...Daphne and Ashley drove me to LAX which is within easy reach.

The International Terminal I directed her to,...To find out I was leaving from Terminal two.

But no reason to balk'... we had a short healthy walk.



Check in was easy but because I had a big heap...The extra luggage was not cheap.

Then we realized today we would become thinner...As there was no place to have dinner.

We opted for cake and coffee at Star Bucks instead of a meal... But had it been available, dinner would have been a better deal.



Daphne was on the phone for a long time...To resolve a blackberry problem of mine

But she could not finish. It was getting late.. I needed to get to the gate.

I had to be at the gate by nine,...And a grumpy guard told us to move very fast in a very long line.

That only gave time for a quick hug and kiss and off I went...With a last wave around the bend.

And again I am being seen,...by someone thru a security machine.

I still had to wait for awhile...And was lucky to change my seat to an isle.

Air New Zealand' plane was big and clean,...ore comfortable then some I have seen.

There were blankets, pillows and good food...And the flight was very smooth.

An empty seat next to me...It was better then I had expected it to be.

**In 11 and a half hours or on 02-27-2012 I will arrive in Auckland for a new sight,
We jump a day ahead as we cross the International date line during this flight.**

Marie Jose Temmink

02-27-2012

AUCKLAND NEW ZEALAND TO SIDNEY AUSTRALIA

**A glorious sight...
To see the New Zealand morning light.**

**A cheese omelet with fruit to eat...
After I awoke in a somewhat comfortable seat.**

**Over the beach, onto rolling hills in green...
A picture perfect view I have seldom seen.**

**After landing, five hours I had to wait...
For the not yet open Sidney gate.**



**But in any case...
I got to watch many International travelers in this place.**

**Decaf coffee with a blackberry and custard muffin to enjoy.
They accepted American dollars but not having change seemed a ploy.**

**Security was called when...
A sweeper found a strange looking pen.**

**But it was reclaimed soon by a young man...
That had been looking for his expensive pen.**



**Five hours to wait was a long time...
But it gave me plenty of time to rhyme.**

I send an SMS to Daphne and Ashley to let them know I was safe...

A senior traveling alone but brave.

**In three hours I will be...
In Sidney Australia to sail out to sea.**

Marie Jose Temmink



PACIFIC PRINCESS WORLD CRUISE 2012



WORLD CRUISE

2012
Segment 3



Distance Travelled

- Sydney to Cairns 1250 miles
- Cairns to Guam 2153 miles
- Guam to Lwo Jima 638 miles
- Lwo Jima to Tokyo 634 miles
- Tokyo to Hiroshima 444 miles
- Hiroshima to Busan 103 miles
- Busan to Shanghai 418 miles
- Shanghai to Hong Kong 800 miles
- Hong Kong to Phu My 913 miles
- Phu My to Laem Chabang 606 miles
- Laem Chabang to Singapore 803 miles

03-01-2012

SIDNEY TO CAIRNS

**For the last three days you were able to see...
Me cruising from Sidney to Cairns at sea.**

**On board you might guess...
Of the Pacific Princess.**

**With three people from Oregon I arrived late...
Just before they were ready to close the gate.**

**My stateroom was perfect mid ship...
And Omar had made sure I could eat and have a sip.**

**And be merry.. .
While drinking chilled wine and eating a chocolate covered berry.**

**My steward told me for sure...
For every inconvenience she had a cure.**

**Soon Carlos the Maître D called to greet....
And hopes this evening we will meet.**



03-01-2012

SIDNEY TO CAIRNS CONT.

Instructed by Omar, his boss, to look out for me...And keep me happy as can be.

Omar, a neighbor of Frans in Woodland hills is an executive with this fleet...

His wife Cindy has arranged our travels and takes care of every need.

I unpacked and was settled soon like home...

While from my balcony I viewed the Sidney Opera Dome.

The emergency drill I attended this time...

Just in case our Captain would also drink wine.



Like the one of a Costa cruise,...That gained fame for the ship he was about to lose.

Dinner on deck while we sailed away...Out of the Sidney bay.

A robe, slippers and chocolates on my bed...For this lifestyle there is something to be said

In the morning tried Zumba with zest...But it was too painful for my radiated breast.

But what the heck...I can walk daily on deck.

My dining table partners are fine... I can write, rhyme and pay bills on line.

500 minutes free internet till Singapore....But I am sure I will use a lot more.

The first day I felt a bit uneasy...As my stomach was a bit queasy.

There are no interruptions while I write...While I enjoy from my balcony this beautiful sight.

A surprise disc in my computer case...Brought tears down my face.

As family and friends let me know...They love me and are happy I am on the go.

The food is superb. Activities galore...A reason to cruise a lot more.

Elegant ship and friendly staff...What more to enjoy could I have.

First gala evening since Frans is gone...During which they played our favored song.

I am not alone cruising the barrier reef...He is with me I truly believe.

Marie Jose Temmink

03-02-2012

ARRIVAL IN CAIRNS

Tropical air...Birds everywhere.

**The serenity is mesmerizing...
This place must be to every ones liking.**

**Private Yachts are lined up...
Probably all owners are fans of the Australian cup.**

**On my balcony I feel this hype...
That I cannot describe.**

**Sailing along...
On a ship I think I belong.**

**A private cabin with people around me...
No reason to be lonely.**

**And in my vivid memory...
Frans is still with me.**

**And for every future cruise or ride...
I know he will remain to be my steady guide.**

**I now must go to eat...
Before the land tour in this tropical heat.**



Marie Jose Temmink

04-03-2012

THAILAND TO INDIA

**Between Thailand and India we cruised two days in a calm sea...
In a comfortable stateroom that feels almost like home to me.**

**And we arrived in former Madras now known as Chennai
And all I can exclaim is O MY!**

I had no expectation...But this for me was for sure a revelation.

**Seven million people roaming around...
In trash, bad odor, dusty pot hole roads and noisy sound.**

**Skeleton holy cows grazing on hills of trash...
Seniors and children begging for cash.**

**Bathrooms sporadic or obsolete...
As people are seen using the side of the street.**

**On sandals or bare feet they walk on hot stone or sand...
Life has a different dimension in this land.**

**But woman are pretty in their multicolor silk flocks...
And children wear pressed uniforms and white socks.**

**Internet cafes Mac Donald and pizza parlors are busy places...
Ad no longer foreign to the younger faces.**

**Changes are coming according to our older guide...
But she did not divulge it with pride.**

**It seemed out of place and a bit ironical...
That the only manicured ground was the Gandhi Memorial**

**Engineering and Nursing schools advertise along the road frequently...
Maybe some day buildings and public health can be their specialty.**

**Many Temples they have, and have prayed in for centuries...
But it does not seem to have helped their life qualities.**

**75 percent of marriages are still arranged...And that tradition is also
slowly being changed.**

**It was easy to get back on board...As we were the only cruise ship in this
port.**

Marie Jose Temmink

03-06-2012

ETERNAL LOVE

When Frans and I met we had both lost our spouse..
And were getting again used to living alone in the house.

But it was a meeting meant to be..
We could not live without he or me.

It was not what we had planned or looked for..
But the desire to be together was in the core.

And we wanted our prior spouses to be part..
In the union of our heart.

They had died expecting us some day to join them in their grave..
We wanted to keep the promise we gave.

Gerard was entombed in a crypt close by,..
So we informed our children we would move Lucy's ashes also nearby.

We sold her grave and bought the crypt next to my husband..
And were allowed to drive her ashes over land.

A serene service, we were glad she was here ...
Our mission was accomplished to have her also near.

So when we die we will join our previous spouse..
But until then we will be happy in the same house.

Not everyone in their life gets to experience a second love..
As new and pure as the flight of a white dove.

Our love was real, mature and new..
But the past we did not need to undue.

Therefore we planned the four of us to be together..
Forever.

A promise I made to both my loving man..
"Some day we will be together again"

I am at ease to know now where I will be..
Next to him and next to he.



Marie Jose Temmink

03-08-2012

CAIRNS TO GUAM

To travel alone was maybe meant...To find out one can be his own best friend.

I have undisturbed time to reflect on the past...And in my mind see the entire cast...

Pass by during this time...While I have time to create this rhyme.

They say people get stronger the more you endure...
I have had my share for sure.

To write rhymes on a cruise, five full days at sea... With only water to see.

I am as comfortable being alone...As in my Long Beach and Desert home.

For today, it is getting later...Tomorrow again we will cross the equator.

I attended a few classes to become a computer wiz...
But that did not help what I really miss.

To communicate with everyone in an easy way...
Because the internet is slow I must say.

But I can not complain, as in the time of my Mother...
It was even slower to send a letter to one and another.

But it did improve my skill...Not bad for a senior over the hill.

No bed to be made, no dish to be done...
private stateroom with a balcony and sun.

No grocery shopping no meals to prepare...The food better then almost any where.

Interesting seniors fortunate to travel the world around...
I enjoy listening to their stories and sound.

They hope their children will be able to experience the same...
But are not sure as they think many things have become insane.

The ship is comparable to well known resorts...But able to stop in many ports.

Private TV with selective world news...Without comments of every ones views.

Evening shows by people that appear on many lists...of the worlds best artists.

A library were I can quietly reflect ...On what poem to write next.

I am as content as I can be...Traveling alone at sea.

Smooth sailing till now,...Tomorrow we will be in Guam, Wow.
Marie Jose Temmink



03-08-2012

GUAM



**At 8 am the ship was in dock...
And out streamed the whole flock.**

**To set feet again on steady ground...
And get on a bus that will take us around.**

**We viewed the battlefields of WW2 were a park was created in memory...
For the ones that fought the enemy.**

**Japan brutally ruled for more then two years...
And the native Chamorro's shed happy tears.**

**When the US recaptured the island in July 1944 this occasion...
Is remembered yearly with a big celebration.**

**The main income now is tourism out of Japan...
Who love to spend as much time here as they can.**



**After the occupation...
They now have a friendly relation.**

**And play golf here very cheap...
Since at home that price is very steep.**

**One third of the population is US military...
And the number of guards here could make someone feel scary.**

**The weather is tropical year round...
With a soothing wave crashing sound.**

**Most people are Catholic and many related...
The last three girls were cousins that our tour guide dated.**

**They do not slaughter animals here and import all the meat...
As well as many other things they eat.**

**Recurring typhoons, earthquakes and yearly over 2 meters rainfall...
But that does not bother the locals at all.**

**Many have to sweep...
If a dry home they want to keep.**

**Parasailing and surfing , both dangerous above sharp edges of coral...
Are much enjoyed by people that are local.**

**before we were ready again to go...
We were treated to a local cultural show.**

Marie Jose Temmink

03-08-2012

OUR OFFICE BUILDING



**Always looking for a good way to earn...
We realized renting an office gave no return.**

**To buy an office seemed frugal to do...
And would give us much more needed space too**

So we set out... About town to scout

Then one day...I remembered the building of my first client the VNA

Their business had been sold...To a local hospital I was told.

But the building they did not need... And soon was overgrown with weed.

They were a non profit entity... That appeared to operated with little clarity.

But we decided to proceed ...s his was the building that fit our need.

The building had been vacant longer then a year... And who was the owner was very unclear

I approached the hospital and was told\..., They had nothing to be sold.

But they referred me to the corporate office, may be they could tell... Who also confirmed there was nothing to sell

But they suggested I contact the Real Estate department in Texas... Maybe they could tell who's building it was.

There answer took awhile... In the meantime a Real Estate friend ordered a property profile.

It was owned by the Medical Center, and when they realized the building did exist ... They wasted more money by hiring a broker to enlist.

The building had a conditional use permit...That had lapsed and was no longer valid.

Cont.

Cont.

We made a low offer with a contingency...That the city would approve it for our agency.

We received the permit and bought it as is... Because this opportunity we did not want to miss

We had enough construction knowledge to know.... Not to let this opportunity go.

The building had been neglected, but with TLC... A functional office it would be.

During escrow we were told... Curbs and gutters were required by the city before it could be sold.

To be in conformity...with the neighboring property

But when our research showed the neighboring property. as owned by the city... They turned to be pleasant and very witty,

As they had no curbs and gutters either...They instantly did not require them from neither.

The day we opened our building there was an add in the local paper 10 inches wide

The hospital appealed to the community to donate a million dollar for a new gate on the back side.

It shows non profits do not manage money like the private industry... When short they just appeal to the community.

For us the building was a steal... And turned out to be our best deal

The business I did not want to sell...But the return on this building did very well

Marie Jose Temmink

03-09-2012

MY HOBBY

There were always things I liked to do...
And some I liked better than others too.

But none I liked better than to keep a log...
To reread if my brain would ever enter into a fog.

But for my hobby I had little time...
In this busy life of mine.

I worked always till I retired at the end of 68...
And realized then I had it made.

Because now I have time and attention...
For my hobby I did mention.

Now I can work all day without guilt...
On my family history quilt.

And create this day to day...
By Marie Jose.

I have this drive...
To record all events in my life.

I find this...
My way to reminisce...

And relive my days that went by so fast...
And again enjoy the experience of the past.

I hope the future generation...
Will appreciate this creation.

It is a hobby I recommend...
If you have extra time to spend.



Marie Jose Temmink

03-09-2012

REFLECTION

**During my youth I heard little about greed...
And people seemed to care more about each others need.**

**Everything seemed good...
In my neighborhood.**

**I was raised in a village under every ones eye...
And whatever I did it did not slip by.**

The elders that knew us all...Because the village was very small.

And some were eager to report.. Little children's mishaps of any sort.

**Neighborhood watch was invented then...
Because you were noticed no matter were or when.**

I new early on...In this place I did not belong.

And of course it raised eyes...When I said my good buys.

**But I am so thankful I did...
Because my future I could not see under this tight lid.**

**But the teachings of Church and community constraints...
Did help me avoid many complaints.**

**I did my best to please...
Even if it was not always with ease.**

I am content with life and what I did...And did not need a tight lid.

**To keep me in line...
I did it on my own just fine.**

Marie Jose Temmink



03-11-2012

GUAM TO TOKYO

**We sailed on 3-10 at sunset with a beautiful red sky...
While on the other side of the ship the moon was up high.**

We are again on the go...Sailing three full days to Tokyo.

**On 3-11 we sailed around...Iwo Jima Island, and only heard the
sound...**

**Of a wreath being dropped in the water...
for the young man that died here with honor.**

**And I can not imagine the fear...
They experienced on this island were now, no one lives on or even
near.**

**And I can not imagine this battle in 1945...
Were no one had respect for life.**

**The Japanese committed suicide...
When for the Americans they could no longer hide.**

Because they thought...Suicide was more honorable then being caught

**Rusted metal of ships is all I can see...
Around this now peaceful island here in the sea.**

**It was the fiercest battle of WW2 it is said...
Where the Americans and Japanese met.**

**But after years of anger and hate...
The island was returned to Japan in 1968.**

**On deck there was much discussion with a glass of wine...
Till all realized it was time again to dine.**

**The next docking on 03-12 will be in Tokyo...
Were we are told we will probably see snow.**

This trip gives us a lesson in history...While we now cruise in luxury.

Marie Jose Temmink

03-12-2012

TOKYO

At seven am we cruised for miles between tall buildings cranes and docks...

In sunny weather, no snow, but cold enough to wear socks.

Mount Fuji is still far away...But its symmetrical snow topped cone was visible today.

People believe the mountain is sacred and there is an entrance there...
To another world out some where

We were welcomed with a ruffling drum sound...And photographers all around.

And before we went on shore...

There were a view tips for the ones that had not been here before.

Suma wrestlers can weight up to 550 pounds...Do not be surprised if you see them walking around

Slurping sounds while eating are allowed...Even when you do it out loud.

And after you enjoy a meal you can say at least... Yachisa-sama deshita” it was a real feast!

People greet, say good bye or pay respect with a bow...Some with a nod, others with their head very low.

In this city Frans and I would have felt apprehensive...Since holding hands in public is considered offensive,

Tea seems no longer the drink for some to like the best...As they import 85% of the Jamaican coffee for the rest.

The bus was designed for tiny people, with a personal ash tray...
But also here one can no longer freely puff away

A serious city in business dress and many with a mask on their face...
To prevent getting from or blowing germs into space.

A city with the same size people, dressing dark, many woman wearing Uggs...

But no empty stores, beggars, trash, gravity or signs of drugs.

Cont.

Tokyo

Destroyed in WW2 for more then 50%...Makes one realize how their time is spend.

We reached the top of Tokyo tower that is higher then the Eifel Tower in France...

Now the Tokyo Tree at double the height will open in May for even a more far away glance.

**In this remarkable city we were shown a lot in a short time...
With a good guide and a chauffer that drove just fine.**

For the tourist no internet access in this city...Decisions from authorities but a real pity.

But by phone I was able to reach...My daughters and a friend in Long Beach.

In the evening we sailed away...From this gigantic, serious, clean and serene city on its own bay.

In Tokyo I had never been...But I am thankful for what I have seen

**Even though it was only a glimpse of what is here that I saw today...
But I leave with memories I did not have yesterday.**

Marie Jose Temmink

03-13-2012

HIROSHIMA

**From Tokyo we sailed a day and two nights...
And arrived in Hiroshima in the early morning
light.**

**After the day at sea was again comfortably
spend...
With a great wine tasting event.**



**This was the only city in the world that was destroyed by an atomic at-
tack...**

But the resilient residents have built it back

**Bigger then it was ever before...
While praying destruction will happen no more.**

**They work very hard and built the Mazda car...
That it is shipped very far.**

And it is mostly the steel industry...That drives the local economy

**There are many Memorials to remind the world what happened here...
To never forget the effects of a war that was more then severe.**

**Spring flowers and some tress are already in bloom...
And uniformed men clean the streets with a hand made broom**

**No visible tattoos or slouching man with their pants hanging low...
But well dressed business man on the go.**

Western cities every where.. No longer seem to compare.

**Traffic moves steady and disciplined, directed by signs of all sorts...
But no were screaming bill boards**

**A pleasant day in a city that was once no more...
But that resurfaced with an even stronger core.**

**This stop made us realize that no matter what happens in life...
Human beings if they have a change, do their best to survive.**

Marie Jose Temmink

03-15-2012

BUSAN

**As I sailed into the harbor like ones before...
On a cruise in 2004,**

**I see many more buildings then I remember...
On that trip with Frans in September.**

**Very high apartment buildings line every street...
For which a city with 3.6 million people has a big need.**

**An attractive city with a mile long down town beach...
But a relationship with their Northern neighbors out of reach.**

**No space for golf courses but many enormous covered cases...
To create driving range spaces.**

**We are told that here the civil engineers...
Are better trained then their world wide peers.**

**That is why...
They build most of Dubai.**

**For our tour Korea's largest Buddhist Temple had been reserved...
Were the oldest Buddhist scriptures in the world are preserved.**

**The only United Nations Memorial Park in the world is here...
As bitter fighting in the Korean war was near .**

**And young man of 16 different countries died on this land...
Including 117 young man from the Netherland.**

**They never again saw their family..
But their names are here on a marble stone under a bonsai tree in their
memory.**



Marie Jose Temmink

03-16-2012

CHEFS TABLE

**I would not have wanted to loose...
The best kept secret on this cruise.**

**An invitation to the Chefs food affair...
Is an opportunity to experience something extra ordinaire.**

**To have a galley tour and see the staff prepare...
Everything that leaves here with the utmost care.**

**The selection of wine and food...
Put us soon in a very good mood.**

**And having it served so well...
Made this evening unforgettable.**

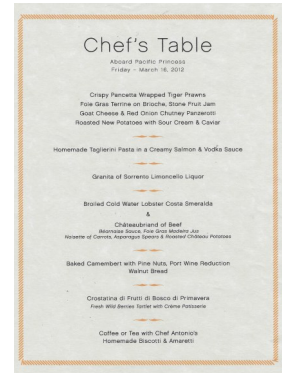
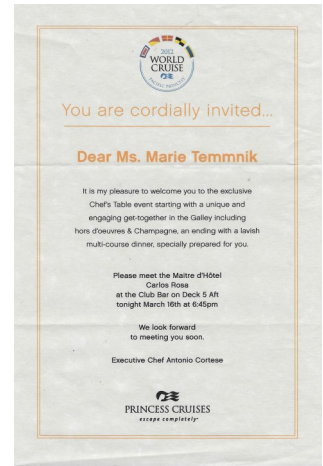
**A salute to Antonio Cortese the Executive Chef and Carlos Da Rosa Maître D
and their entire crew...
Who certainly knew...**

**To make this evening a fairy tale feast...
That had us all leave this banquet very well pleased.**

**This cruise is not complete...
Until you do more then just eat.**

**So I hope everyone will be able...
To dine at the Chefs table.**

Marie Jose Temmink



Pacific Princess 16th March 2012

03-17-2012

SHANGHAI

**After another easy day cruising at sea...
We were in for a big surprise of what
we would see.**

**So much more...Then I remember from
2004.**

**A city that is big, futuristic and myste-
rious...**

23 million people are living here looking friendly but serious.

**Many new skyscrapers up to nearly 100 stories high...
Built of gleaming stainless steel, marble and granite will make them cer-
tainly last for awhile.**

**The street lined sycamore trees are still bare...
But new multi color spring flowers are every where.**

**We reached the Jin Mao Towers top in a silent 45 seconds ride...
From the street to the 88th floor height.**

**The Shanghai museum, like I remembered it.. .
But I did not have as much time to visit as Frans and I did.**

**The bund an elegant riverfront promenade with grandiose...
European 19th century buildings standing close.**

**Nanjing road with every elegant worldwide shop..
A desirable place to shop till you drop.**

**New construction going on everywhere. ..
No other city seems to compare.**

**But the middle class shifts again to being poor...
As we are told the top 20% strives to take everything for sure.**

**And the tour guide thinks the only solution...
Will again be some day a revolution.**



Marie Jose Temmink

03-17-2012

PRINCESS SUNDAY BRUNCH

**The Princess pater reads: Sleep in, relax and come to the table...
And eat as much as you are able.**

At the lazy Sunday Brunch....While you enjoy a drink with a punch.

**The chefs are ready to prepare...
Anything at this food affair.**

**Tables many feet long...
Today this is were you belong.**

**Carving stations of beef and lamb...
And any sorts of pork or ham.**

**Vegetables and salads of any kind...
The one you like you will find.**

**And in between all these delicious
goods...
Is a table with worldwide fruits.**



All breads home made,...For sure you must take some on your plate.

**Many pates and a variety of cheese...
You must try at least some of these.**

Cold cuts sliced at the table...You would think this is all a fable.

Pasta's made to your taste...Enjoy eating a lot without haste.

The skill full prepared omelets...Are as good as it gets.

**The ambiance with ice carvings flowers and music is great...
And for the mimosa and champagne you do not have to wait .**

**There are an abundance of dishes hot or chilled...
And for all of this you are not extra billed.**

**One could not handle this every day...
Therefore it is only served at sea on a lazy Sunday.**

Marie Jose Temmink

03-21-2012 .

HONG KONG

The entrance into the city seemed long...As we cruised into Hong Kong.

I have been here two times before...But recognize it no more.

In 1972 it looked mysterious...In 2004 much more serious.

But now it seems a place...Out of space.

No where can you see...And nowhere can you be...

To experience a city that builds this fast...
Majestic buildings designed to last.

Limitations are only in ones mind...
Not in Hong Kong's buildings of any kind.

The meaning of status quo...They do not seem to know...

Because within their range...The focus is on change.

Bigger, better taller and more... Are the buildings on their shore.

While traveling one leaves behind...
Frivolous matters that can clutter ones mind.

But experience the thrill...To see accomplishments of people that have a will.

And how other souls ...Accomplish their goals.

For the second time I visited the Island of Lanta...
No longer a farming community now.

But also a sophisticated city...And it really is not a pity...

To see the new replace the old...In a manner that is very bold.

Stanley market, Vitoria Peek and Aberdeen...
Still are familiar places I remembered and had seen.

And while watching the synchronized evening laser light show...
I was sorry that to morrow again we have to go.



Marie Jose Temmink

03-24-2012

VIETNAM



We sailed from China to Vietnam in two days...
With an other gala, more wine to taste and champagne party under sunny rays.

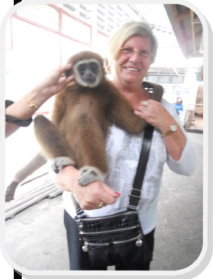
Of all the places so far...Vietnam is not yet up to par.

In many places there is more...junk and trash then in 2004.

The street are still not all paved...Maybe for other things they saved.
Quality of life here has a different meaning...And towards poverty they are still leaning...

But hungry they seem not...As food is cooked on the sidewalks in more the one pot.

Everywhere you see them eat and drink...And one wonders what about do they think.



Their rice exportation is now much more...Then when we were here in 2004.

But wages are low and taxes high...That is probably why...

Unless the government will assist....Conditions here will persist.

Smoking they can still afford...As cigarettes cost a fraction from abroad.

There pleasant local markets with fruit vegetables and fish...
I was glad again I did not miss.

We visited home businesses of making rice wine, rice paper or growing fruits...
And these people live better since they can sell their goods.

We visited two Buddha temples, and we saw many pray...
And they hope he has something positive to say.

As for their sake...A decision they do not make. ..

Because they would be guessing...Without Buddha's blessing.

We had lunch and a peek...In the beach town Vung Tau that was nice and chic.

It is not that they do not have style...But for most it will still be awhile.

Before they to can improve... And from a hut to a home they can move.

It was interesting to see Vietnam again...And hope they to will have a better life again.

It was a glimpse thru a birds eye...but we saw more then if we had not come by.

Marie Jose Temmink

03-25-2012

DEAR ETHAN.

**Oma is far away...
But your name I often say.**

**When I talk with some...
About my oldest Grandson.**

**I am so proud that you insist. .
Staying on the Principals list.**

**And working hard in many ways...
To get in all subjects straight A's.**

**I have seen many interested places...
And many different faces.**

**And they do not all live in a family unity...
Where they have the best opportunity**

**And they do not have a change to get ahead...
To earn more than their daily bread.**

**So when you ever have a more than difficult day...
Remember the opportunities that come your way.**

**To be what ever you desire...
Or be like someone you now admire.**

**I wished I could join you for Easter this year...
But in my mind I will celebrate with you all here.**

**I look forward again for you to be my guest ...
At a Sunday morning breakfast.**

**When again overnight you stay...
In my Palm Valley Desert home when I am back in May.**

**Say hello to your little brothers...
And all the others.**

Love Oma.

Marie Jose Temmink

03-26-2012

THAILAND



**We arrived in Laem Chabang at seven am...
And sailed in between many cranes and containers
again.**

**Bangkok was a two and a half hour drive away...
That would leave not enough time to see it in one
day.**

**We had stayed in Bangkok for a few days in 2004...
And I felt lucky today I had been there before.**



**So this day was maybe meant...
To spend time with an elephant.**

**We visited the elephant city Pattaya that was opened in
1973...
A sanctuary for working elephants now retired and free.**

**To spend their remaining years ...
In dignity and freedom without fears.**

**And show the public what tricks they can do...
While living happily in this elephant zoo.**



**They were not intimidating and I had no fear...
To touch them and stand near.**

**So I climbed on top in a basket...
But hoped I would not end up in a casket.**

**Elephants have been part of rural life in Thailand
for centuries...
And riding on top was already in my book of memo-
ries.**

**But for me this day it was worth...
To again have a change to ride the biggest animal on
earth.**

Marie Jose Temmink

03-29-2012

SINGAPORE

**After two smooth sailing days we arrived in Singapore...
Also here I have been before.**

**And again I hope this visit is not the last...
Even though the years are slipping by to fast.**

On this trip I have not seen,... A place that is this clean...

**A tropical paradise with orchids in bloom...
And no evidence of doom and gloom.**

It is a pleasure to see ...How nice it can be.

In Singapore, what one sees...Is a beautiful city with many tall trees.

**Everything is well maintained...
And people are expected to behave as a saint.**

And if they don't...The punishment is severe if they won't.

Authority is respected here...And there is nothing to fear.

As long as they remember don't be a fool...But follow every rule.

Work the people here do not resist...As a handout does not exist.

**Under 10,000 dollar income one pay's 10 percent tax...
And at age 62 they can relax.**

**When they start living from the 30 percent ...Of income they did not
spend.**

**But were forced to save during their careers, to live on during their gold-
en years.**

**Cars are to expensive to buy or maintain...
But everywhere they can take a bus or a train.**

**Here they live what they preach...Which in the USA still seems far out of
reach.**

Marie Jose Temmink

03-31-2012



SINGAPORE TO PHUKET

**We finished the first segment of this trip...
On the Pacific Princess ship.**

**Now we will visit places I have not been...
An in unfamiliar territory I will be seen.**

And at the Captains will...We just finished our first Pirate drill.

**I do not mind this extra fuss...
But I sure hope they will not bother us.**

We sailed 10.258 miles from the start...And getting used to it is not very hard.

**Today we explored the Island of Phuket...
The nicest place in Thailand it is said.**

**Nature supposedly looks again like before...
The devastating tsunami in 2004.**

But the repairs by mankind...Seem to stay behind.

**Many buildings are still in disrepair...
But the locals do not seem to care.**

**Because buildings and trash are hidden under a veil of green...
And beautiful tropical plants not often seen.**

**The white limestone cliffs above water that is emerald green..
Is truly unique to be seen.**

People keep monkeys as a house pet...On this magical Island of Phuket.

13.000 million tourist came each year...To spend their vacation here.

**Now the locals do their best...
To service again 7000 million guest.**

**And pray the next tsunami will stay away...
From their beautiful bay.**

Marie Jose Temmink

04-02-2012

THOUGHTS ON MY SHIPS BALCONY

**I am sitting on my balcony on the ship called the Pacific...
And I am aware that my life is indeed terrific.**

**The ocean is as smooth as can be...
And till the horizon it is only water I see.**

**This environment puts me in a state of mind...
That I have no trouble to unwind.**

**I am not lonely or alone...
There are people on board, internet and I have my phone.**

**And even when there is no sound...
I feel Frans remains in the background.**

**People might think to live with a spirit is insane...
But let me explain...**

**Sweet memories for me mean
more...
Then a new relationship with a
bore.**

**Because I would be insane...
Thinking all man are the same.**

**I have been fortunate in life and
bed...
With the two man I have wed.**

**My only desire now is time to write...
As much as I desire day or night.**

**And let the world pass by in front of me...
While I enjoy stunning views from this balcony.**



Marie Jose Temmink

04-07-2012

MUMBAI

**From Chennai to Mumbai it was three days in the Arabic sea...
In anticipation what next we would see.**

**The harbor is polluted, no swimming allowed...
In this crowd,**

**Of 23 million people that exist here...
In a dirty polluted atmosphere.**

**The sea water is as brown as the air...
And not an appealing pair.**

It is a real pity...To see this decaying city.

**Where they do not seem aware...
Of the benefit of clean water and air.**

**And before to long...
Without intervention the old will be gone.**

But new buildings are arising.. For a price that is surprising.

A small condo is sold...For 3 million American dollars we are told.

**Which only a very few of the people can pay...
While the majority cannot improve their way.**

**We stopped at the Taj Mahal hotel...
Were only the super rich can stay you could tell.**

**The city name changed to Mumbai from Bombay...
But the locals still call it Bombay anyway.**

**In the hanging gardens the death are laid down...
And digested by vultures that fly over town.**

The monument Gateway to India is ...Comparable to Arc de Triomphe in Paris.

**More then one guard...
We had to pass at the prince of Whales museum with its ancient art.**



Marie Jose Temmink

04-11- 2012

MANAMA BAHRAIN

Three slow sea days again till Bahrain...
And I wondered what experience here I would gain.

But after Mumbai's demise...
This was really a surprise.

Manama in the Persian gulf in the hot sun and sand...
Looks like a fairy tale land.

A ghost town of 1.5 million people were no one seemed
home...

It was like we were there alone.

There was no traffic by car or walking...
No chance to meet locals or be talking.

A place of trading and mystery...
Dating far back into history.

We toured the area and saw the hole were in 1932 they struck oil...
Under this arid soil.

The wealth we are told was not kept by just a few.. .
But we are told the entire population was able to improved their life too.

There is no poverty, no homeless, no baggers no trash...
And everyone lives well because of their earned cash.

We stopped at the 400 year old "Tree of life...
Believed to be the spot of the "Garden of Eden" where Adam lived with his
wife.

We fed camels on a farm...That were very tall, gentle and caused no harm.

The guide told us people from all over the world live and work here in har-
mony...
But little news from here on TV do we get to see.

All this news from our Shias Muslim guide who moved here three years ago
from Finland...
And joined the many Shias who are invited to come from all over to live here
under the rule of this Kings hand.

Marie Jose Temmink



04-13-2012

DUBAI

As we sailed into Dubai...We wondered why.

There was nothing in view...But we were told that is nothing new.

Because here it is often the norm...To have zero visibility due to a sand storm

We docked at one pm...And it was not until then

When we were very near ...That we saw the tall buildings appear.

Our sunset safari by jeep as planned...Was cancelled due to the flying sand.

The next morning for \$99.00 it was not worth...

To see the tallest building not only on but buried in the earth.

The view was not magical...But only vertical ...As the horizon in this land...Was hidden by sand.

The sand looked like fresh snow on the ground ...And created the same tracking sound.

All the buildings have the same sandy tone...Probably so the sand will not be shown

Construction seems diminished...As many buildings are fenced in or unfinished.

The mega malls have it all...But are a copy of any California mall

With the same food courts and brand names ...And areas with the same electronic games

Bigger and higher is there claim to fame ...But otherwise much looks the same.

But if one would compare...I believe they would rather live elsewhere.

It will be interesting to see...What Dubai's future will be

Out of the 1,2 million totals.. Only 18 percent are locals

The rest come and go...as laborers, expats or temporary CEO

There are no taxes but prices are over the top...

And only affordable for the Arabian snob

This was a Kings dream who had money to burn..

.But I wonder if a return in the long run he will earn

But if not this town will go down in history...Another era in the 5000 years of this areas mystery

It was a place I had looked forward to see ...As advertising makes it a place you want to be

But in its totality...It was a disappointing reality.

Marie Jose Temmink



04-16-2012

SALALAH IN OMAN

It is exiting to be in the Middle East, a place I have not been before ...
And It is interesting to hear so much more .

A Sultan son born here and educated in the west....Wanted for his country the best.

But he could not regroup...Until he threw out his Dad in a coup.

That was in 1970 when they only had one school...
Now education in one of the 1700 schools is the rule.

99% is Muslim, The Sunni are the minority...But they rule the Shias majority.

Littering is one week in jail and a fine...That keeps every one in line

Only a few man we saw, they were friendly and clean...
And trash was no were to be seen.

No woman or children were on the street...Everywhere it was quiet and neat.

The Prophet Jobs grave is here they say...
We know he walked in the desert but did he come all this way?

There are no restaurants or places to eat...But many fruit stands were you can buy a treat.

Man can have four wives...But are learning it complicates their lives.

Progress here is slow...But the rulers seem to know where they go

With their 3000 miles of pristine beach ...
To become a tourist destination they are trying to reach.

Europeans fly here to have fun...In big enclosed resorts in the white sand sun.

So maybe someday...This will be the place to stay

Or come to shop and have a look ...In an Arabian souk.

But getting close to the locals you can probably forget...
Because it is only their money they want is being said

Because history shows the minority did and always will do their best ...
To continue ruling the rest.

Time will tell as time goes by....What happens here and why.



Marie Jose Temmink

04-19-2012

MY HAIR

**For years I have been in this rut...
Of every six weeks having my hair
cut.**

**And for a long while...
It has been the same length and style.**

**So I felt apprehension...
And a bit tension**

**When I sat in Laurie's chair...
Who was ready to cut my hair**

**While cruising in the Middle East. ..
And not being home for two more
weeks at least**

**I was forced out of my rut...
My hair no longer looked good with-
out a cut.**

**My hair now looks terrific...
After Laurie's cut on the Pacific.**

**And I feel in my gut...
There is no reason to stay in a rut.**



Marie Jose Temmink

04-19-2012



CONSIDERATE CRUISERS

**My earrings I wear every day...
To remember my way...**

**The person who gave them to me...
And I do not often see.**

So I felt very sad,...When I noticed I had...

One earring instead of two...But someone referred me to Ranjan Sahoo.

**Who knew...
What to do.**

**He documented my loss in his book...
And I was surprised how short it took.**

**Before the Junior Assistant Purser on the Pacific...
Made me feel terrific.**

**When he called late that night and said I just might...
Have the earring that was out of your sight.**

**He had no name of the considerate cruiser that had turned it in...
And I would not know where to begin.**

**Except via Brett's early show...
To let the considerate cruiser know.**

**My appreciation for their speed ...
In doing such a nice deed.**

Marie Jose Temmink

04-20-2012

The opportunity to attend this class...
I did not pass.

Gourmet food...
Always puts me in a good mood



04-21-2012

AGABA JORDAN

The temperature was predicted to be hot...But unbearable it certainly was not.

On this sightseeing trip here...In the Jordan Wadi Rum desert atmosphere

**I rode a camel in the sand...
While someone led the animal by hand.**

**This creature taller than I expected...
When he got up and stood erected.**

**So here I went on a camels back in the red
sand...
In this far from home foreign land.**



**We drank tea in a Bedouin tent...
Where ones an English Colonel Lawrence was send.**

**To fight the battle of independence in 1916...
One of the many this land in history has seen.**

The life as we know it does not exist here...And probably never will I fear.

One million people live in this town now...And they vow.

**With the influx of Egyptians and Syrians they plan to have 10 million by 2022...
They built fast and already 50% of all buildings are new.**

Also here they aim...To gain...

By luring tourist to come and see...This red sand desert town along the red sea.

**To view the hidden city Petra and Wadi Rum...
That are treasures they say comparable to none.**

**But for me it is not a place to stay...
Because coming on a cruise ship is the best way.**

**Billions are invested for tourist accommodations here, but I doubt...
That they bring enough money to feed this crowd.**

Marie Jose Temmink

04-22-2-12

EGYPT

In the red sea all night the ship did not rock,
And when I awake we were already in dock.

In another foreign land ...With no trees in sight but lots of sand,

We drove with several busses in a convoy,
Told for protection, not to annoy.

Security was very strict...Here in Egypt.

We were stopped often on the road...For a police man to check out our load.

But we arrived in Luxor...To admire its bygone splendor.

Prosperity is not seen here,...As many buildings appear bombed out that stand near.

Then off Tutankhamen's tomb in the valley of the Kings...
While on the way we were told in the bus we had to leave our things.

Because cameras were not allowed...As in the scan the pictures for sure would be destroyed.

The pesky vendors were aggressive males...And because of their pushiness lost many sales,

They did not leave us alone and in chorus would holler...One dollar One dollar

But I was happy to have come this way...Especially while living in a young country like the USA.

It shows profoundly generations come and go...While some do a lot and others let their chance forego

To leave their mark that has worth ...For the next generation on this earth.

But while driving in Egypt it appears that this generations contribution...
Seems to be their trash distribution.

By lack of their respect and civility...Only for littering will they be remembered into eternity.

Then there will be no tears,... for viewing civilization of thousand of years.

Here also the difference between old and new...Is as stark as between the poor and a few

Who control and have it all...while the rest is up against the wall

We had lunch in a posh hotel on the Nile...Where it was pleasant to stay for awhile,

But the building next door...Looked like it was destroyed in a war.

Back to the ship in another convoy bus...Was a plus.

Marie Jose Temmink



04-23-2012

CRUISE STAFF

LESTER

**Lester was a real winner...
Among the others that helped during dinner.**

**He remembered details and my way...
After the first day.**

**Remind him I did not need to do...
It was as he always knew...**

**Because he did his best...
Remembering likes of every guest.**

MILAGROS

**Everyday during my cruise she was there,
Always seemed to come out of nowhere.**

**Milagros, I never heard that name before,
She did her job and much more.**

**I never had a complaint,
Because Milagros was a real Saint.**

**It made my cruise very pleasant,
To have an attentive servant.**

**That did her very best,
Making me feel as a welcome guest.**

MAURICE

**Being the dining room police...
Was handled expertly by a man named Maurice.**

**He is always pleasant and in a good mood...
While directing his staff in delivering food.**

**He is a great example for his staff...
And for Princess cruises an asset to have .**

Marie Jose Temmink

04-23-2012

ACTIVITIES ON BOARD

**About the cruise Director Brett...
Something needs to be said.**

**I believe he works day and night...
And he does not loose sight.**

**Of any activity on this cruise...
And under stress his temper he does not loose.**

**The responsibility of keeping cruisers entertained is his...
And at that he is a wis.**

**Brett and his staff are the best...
In providing activities with zest.**

**I did not expect...
That besides direct.**

**He also knows...
To be a great star in his shows.**

**His energy is inspiring...
And keeps us admiring.**

**This entertainment crew...
That always seems to know what to do.**

**Brett you will go far...
Because in your field you are a star.**

Meet Cruise Director
Brett Siborne



Marie J. Temmink

04-24-2012

SUEZ CANAL.

**It is a thrill to see..
The view from my balcony.**



**On this sunny morning of April 24...
In a place I also have never been before.**

**Who could guess...
I would cruise thru the canal of Suez.**

**My beloved husbands would want to be
here...
But they cruise in my mind only I fear.**



**Two birds slowly pass...
Some know what meaning it has.**

**The view is serene with little sound...
But armed guards all around.**

**It is difficult to imagine this creation by hand...
From the Red Sea to the Mediterranean thru sand.**

**The grand opening was in 1869...
By then 1.5 million had shuffled sand to create this water line.**

**Since then, many controversies about control...
And about who can haul...**

**Their goods thru this canal in the sand...
Or cruise to a foreign land..**

**I am fortunate to sit here and contemplate...
About the present and future worlds fate.**

Marie Jose Temmink

04-25-2012

ALEXANDRIA /CAIRO EGYPT

**Today three hours by bus on the go...
In another armed convoy from Alexandria to Cairo.**

**An educated guide, traveled and married to a diplomat...
Tells us that the people of Egypt now have a future as they never had.**

**She tells us this is the most beautiful city...
While the views from the bus are a pity.**

**Civilization of 9000 years...
But what you see brings you to tears.**



**80 million people in Egypt 21 million in Cairo...
And with there trash they seem not to know were to go.**

**A landfill as big as the Suez canal seems a must...
With a bulldozer to move in the trash and dust.**

**Small farms with human labor along the roads...
People herding there sheep or goats.**

**Minimal income 1600 American dollars a year...
With no quality of life for half of the people here.**

**Only because of the Nile...
Have they existed here for all this while.**

**First and foremost...
For tourist they should become a better host.**

**Because all of us...
Prefer to be were an armed guard is not needed in the bus.**

Cont.

04-25-2012

Page 2

ALEXANDRIA/CAIRO IN EGYPT

**And if they want to preserve their treasures...
They need to have more stringent measures.**



**Out of 118 pyramids 8 are left...
And they are unprotected from local vandalism and theft.**

**They show no respect for their inherited wealth...
As everything looks like a trash belt.**

**And on this Pyramid tour...
No one was able to walk without stepping in camel manure.**

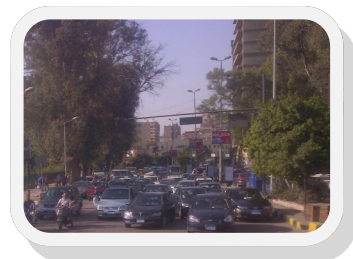
**For 25 percent of the people the problem is illiteracy...
Because they ignore that their education is compulsory.**

**It appears another country of haves and have not's...
But it seems a few here have lots.**

**And these few insist...
That the rest just exist.**

**Hopefully the people have a better selection...
In the upcoming election.**

**Then maybe the income from the Suez fees...
Are used for improvements that everyone sees.**



**Egypt's name to fame is longevity...
For the masses I hope the next leader will have a focus on quality.**

Marie Jose Temmink

04-26-2012

REMEMBERING DAD

**It is twenty years ago today...
That Dad unexpected went away..**

**We had returned from a week in Sequoia and Yosemite..
And there was no sign of the upcoming calamity.**

**He set out close to lunch to get the boat ready to sail...
But returned shortly exhausted and pale...**

**This Sunday morning he got up feeling well...
But by noon it was a day from hell.**

**I often wondered why loved ones have to die...
Without being able to say goodbye.**

**The agony I felt I will never be able to voice...
But realized I had no other choice.**

**Then try to stay strong..
And go on.**

**While hoping against all odds...
And pray to our own Gods...**

**That maybe someday...
All of us will stay...**

**Somewhere...Up there...
Together Forever**



Marie Jose Temmink

04-28-2012

DUBROVNIK

**It was certainly worth...
To again see this gem on earth.**

**I was here over 30 years ago with my daughters by bus...
When we visited 10 countries in a 30 day rush.**

**It was then in Yugoslavia but after the 1991 war...
It is no more.**

**Independent Croatia they hope will be lasting...
It was worth the long time of no electricity water and fast-
ing.**

**It is a UNESCO world heritage
site...
With its red roofs glowing in the
sunlight.**



**No traces of war are seen ...
And the people seem very keen.**

**In doing their utmost...
To remain the gem on this coast.**

**The atmosphere was great...
Even though five cruise ships today came thru their gate.**

**There was not a trace of trash...
And no body begged for cash.**

**And while the church bells outside were ringing...
We enjoyed a folkloric show of dance and singing.**

Marie Jose Temmink

04-29-2012

KOPER SLOVENIA

No need to frown...

When we docked in the center of this Medieval town .

While the church bells rang in harmony...

It was liking stepping back in history.

It was a serene walk thru this town called Koper...

With no billboards pushing a whopper.

It is very old but well maintained ...

And also here since 1991 independence they gained.

Ruled by many countries in history...

They are very happy to be free.

We were welcomed by a band that played polka's...

And we were served local wine and vodka's.

All around here...

We felt a pleasant atmosphere.

People seem relaxed in a beautiful park by the sea...

While for an enemy they no longer have to flee.

A soothing ambiance in the air...

Like we have not felt on this cruise anywhere.

I would not mind at some time to revisit...

To experience more of this leisurely spirit.



Marie Jose Temmink

04-29-2012

MORBID OBESE TRAVELERS

During my travels I was able to observe...That very obese people have the nerve...

To eat non stop...Till they look as ready to pop.

They are comfortable to voice...That they are obese by choice.

**Because while traveling it is a given...
That they will be wheeled, pushed or driven.**

**They use their excessive weight..
To be the first thru any gate.**

**No one needs to fuss...
Because they demand the first row in the
bus.**



And when needed at a wimp...They will even fake a limb.

They enjoy being obese...Because they travel with ease.

The best seat, the front row...There is no problem being very obese and on the go.

**There seems to be no motivation to loose weight...
Because when obese you get help and are never late.**

The number of people being very fat...Seem more then we ever had.

Body weight is not measured in the air...So they fly very comfortable anywhere.

They take as much space as they need...Even if it is half of someone else's seat.

**Rules for the handicapped I believe in...
But not abuse by the obese at the cost of the ones that are thin.**

**Luggage while traveling should include body weight...
So everyone pays equal for their freight.**

It could motivate one to loose...Before their next trip or cruise.

Marie Jose Temmink

04-30-2012

page 1

MY FELLOW CRUISERS

This is news...And views...

**Of some that call this ship home..
Because they do not like to live alone.**

**They find it an easy way to see new places...
And along the way meet new faces.**

**Each person has a reason to be at sea...
And I will share a few that were new for
me.**

**People are eager to share their views...
Not necessarily about world news.**

**But about experiences on this trip...
Or behavior of others on this ship.**

**My intention is not to abuse...
Therefore real names I will not use.**

**The stories are the same...
But I wont list their name**

**One woman from a USA state.. .
Told me her mission is to find a new mate.**

**Some one else was eager to share...
Why she is happier on a ship then anywhere.**

**She had evaluated different retirement resorts for price...
And found none of them to be as economical and nice.**

**And she would not be losing...
Her assets by forever cruising.**

**Therefor she lives on the ship...
And books trip after trip.**



CONT.

04-30-2012

MY FELLOW CRUISERS

page 2

**Some took this cruise four years in a row...
To escape bad weather and snow.**

**One man after he lost his spouse...
Mortgaged for this trip his house.**

**All kinds of people cruise...
Some to over eat, others to booze**

**Some to gamble...
Or constantly ramble.**

**Some make this their home...
Instead of living alone.**

**Some like to expand their view...
And look for something new.**

**Some travel with their mate...
Before it is to late.**

**Some do not condone...
Traveling alone.**

**But I enjoyed to hear their view...
Which for me many were new.**

**One man who was terminal ill...
Decided to leave for his family this cruise bill.**

**There was a woman who's husband she could not stand...
And escapes him by travel at sea or on land.**

**And the man who had been married seven times...
And compared the woman to good and bad wines.**

**Some people became ill...
And were upset about the high medical bill.**



Cont.

04-30-2012

MY FELLOW CRUISERS

PAGE 3

**In the casino some had overspend...
And argued about their final statement.**

**There were several cruisers who brought their nurse...
To assist them and carry their purse.**

**People of all walks of life...
Coming from mansions or a dive.**

**And according to their sounds...
From many backgrounds.**

**And by their dress...
One could tell if they shopped a lot or less.**



**At the end some people longed for their dog or cat...
As they felt sad...**

**That no cruise line accommodates their beloved animal...
Because they could be quarantined in every terminal.**

**People cruise because the many activities on board...
And not having to be bored.**

**The travel logs and seminars were very professional...
And very educational.**

**The entire staff deserves to be commended...
Because of them this cruise will often be recommended.**

**My comprehension of cruising alone I no longer have...
Because of enjoying my fellow cruisers and the service of the entire Pacific staff**

Marie Jose Temmink

05-13-2012

DEAR ETHAN



**Today we celebrate...
As you close the gate.**

**To your elementary school years.
While we all shed tears..**

**That you grew up to fast...
We had wanted this time to last.**

**But we are excited for you to enter this new face...
Entering Junior High at your young age.**

**We are proud you have done your best...
And know you will do the same for the rest...**

**Of the school years ahead...
Because you are smart and well read.**

**Ethan, Keep up your drive...
And you will have a good future in your life.**

Love Oma

Mare Jose Temmink



06-05-2012

ALASKA

**We are here...
In the newest frontier.**

**Our group of eleven, a pleasant blend...
Of family, extended family and a friend.**

**Alaska, a state like no other...
Were we anticipate seeing a bear cup and his Mother.**

**We sailed for three days...
While everyone adjusted in their own ways.**

**For some sea sickness was a bother...
Even though we sailed in calm water.**

**We read, wrote, walked, exercised, danced , played cards or a game...
We dined, and wined, had delicious food that was never the same.**

**Ketchikan, Juneau, and Haines we will explore on our own pace...
And occasionally on land we might see each others face.**

**There are activities to please each individual...
We did not plan a must stay together ritual.**

**But at dinner we come together and share the experiences of the day...
That everyone spends on their own speed and in their own way.**

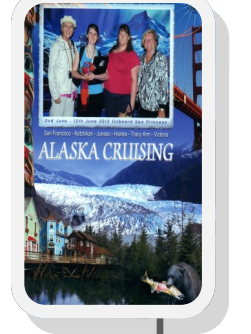
**I do not need to mention...
That everyone experiences this cruise with a different dimension.**

**But let it be said...
This cruise hopefully none of us will forget.**

**Because we are privileged to be able to travel and explore...
And for some of us share notes about how life was before.**

**It is good memories that make us strong...
So a leisurely cruise with family and friends is never wrong.**

Marie Jose Temmink



07-02-2012

page 1

MY BUSINESS

Having my own business is of what I dreamed...

But there was never the right time to start it seemed.

I had noticed this niche in Home Health...

And with this need, no one had yet dealt.

The idea came one day very clear...

Home Health nurses should live near...

The clients in their own neighborhood...

Because driving all day was costly and did no one any good.

Most Home Health Agencies were short of staff...

And needed a resource that they did not have.

Available quality personnel...

That knew home health very well.

They needed to be able to call an entity...

That employed nurses with a home health specialty.

In 1992 I opened Associated Home Health Nurses of America Inc. in Long Beach...

And soon had over 250 nurses within reach.

A qualified licensed staff...

That could be dispatched on any agencies behalf.

It was for everyone a win situation...

And soon the industry relied on my creation.



Cont.

07-02-2012

Page 2

**With one phone call day and night...
Soon they could have a nurse within sight.**

**Agencies were able to admit more patients for care...
Knowing our nurses would see them everywhere.**

**The companies were reimbursed per visit by Medicare...
In an endeavor to lower the cost for hospital care.**

**Patients were discharged while still sick...
With the promised a nurse would come to their home very quick.**

**But for this service, the government ended up paying more...
Then keeping the patient in the hospital a few days more.**

**There was abuse...
Trying to bill for a visit when there was no use.**

**The industry focused on greed...
Instead of filling a need.**

**But by the first detection...
These companies received our notice of service rejection.**

**For some time we had been aware...
That it was time to start our own neighborhood custodial senior care.**

**We were selected by a large HMO ...
Who let some of their other contracts go.**

**They knew our service was the best...
And much more reliable than the rest.**

**But it became a matter of fact,
They tried to reimburse less then was agreed
in the contract.**



07-02-2012

Page 3

**And therefore...
Our decision was to serve them no more.**

**We had a chance to rethink our future plans...
For this 24 hour business we had on our hands.**

**Selling I did not consider...
As I did not want to feel bitter...**

**About a new owner cutting corners and dare...
Lowering my standards of care.**

**Seventeen years with not one suit...
Showed our business had been very good.**

**I launched it in memory of my first husband
John...
And I never had thought to run it this long.**

**I now no longer needed a wage...
As I was past retirement age.**

**A future in this business my daughters did not see...
And I told them that was fine with me.**

**So for me there were happy tears ...
When I closed the door and sold the office building after seventeen
years.**

**I am proud of the accomplishments and how and what we did...
But believe me I do not miss it a bit.**

**I accomplished my goal...
And now enjoy the peace in my soul.**



Marie Jose Temmink

07-06-2012

DAPHNE 47 YEARS

July 7 1965...

Was the day you became independently alive.

There was no rush or rally...

Getting to the hospital called Queen of the Valley.

Labor was induced...

A method Doctors then often used.

Nothing new...

It was done when a week overdue.

Then around my bed a large flock...

Of doctors and nurses administered a saddle block.

It seemed insane...

A spinal injection to prevent birthing pain.

It was difficult to understand...

These unfamiliar procedures in this land.

For the moment I felt glee...

When you were born pain free.

But then I had unbearable pressure in my head...

It was from the spinal injection, they said.

Not being able to move and 24 hours flat in bed....

Was all worth it when they said

A baby girl for you to see...

As healthy as can be.

I was so happy to take you home...

and to no longer be home alone.



Cont.

**And, as a new immigrant... you filled my homesick days...
In many happy ways.**

**Your birth in the USA...
Made us decide to stay.**

**Our parents shed tears...
When we did not return in the planned 5 years.**

**Daphne, you have never been a bother...
I am so proud that you are my daughter.**

**You always show tenderness...
And bring me much happiness.**

**And when we disagree,..
We do not hide or flee.**

**And maybe, at times, without flatter...
We talk until we resolve the matter.**

**You have had your share of sorrow...
But always believed in a better tomorrow.**

**You're self-sufficient and independent...
And could not be a better parent.**

**For you to continue to be as happy as can be...
That is the wish from me.**

**On this celebration of turning 47 years...
You look younger than your peers.**

**Daphne take care of your health...
Always remembering that it is the only true
wealth.**

**Happy birthday, Daphne Mary Ann.
I will always be your fan.**

Love Mom.

Marie Jose Temmink



08-11-2012

FEELING SICK

**I never expected or knew...
That I could feel this lousy out of the blue.**

**I do not have a history of being sick...
But this feeling hit me like a brick,**

**This week my mood has been deflated...
Because I am constantly dizzy and nauseated.**

**I am home bound and unstable on my feet,...
And feel like my patients did when they were in need.**

**I first thought it to be the flu...
But after a few days I knew...**

**That something else is going on,...
And in a Doctors office I belong.**

**I called my health insurance Kaiser...
But the follow up did not make me wiser.**

**To the ER I was directed...
And waited there many hours as expected.**

**To rule out a stroke is why...
The doctor ordered a brain MRI.**

**And because of my claustrophobic history....
I was given medication to prevent more misery.**

**The test showed no problem and I was sent home...
Where I live alone.**

**Because I was diagnosed with vertigo...
I could not drive or be on the go.**

**In case there was something they missed...
I was scheduled to see a hearing specialist.**

**So, after a week being out of my active routine...
Tomorrow I can be seen.**

**In the meantime, I quietly sit still and pray...
That he/she can resolve, my living this miserable way.**



Marie Jose Temmink

08-11-2012

OLD AGE

**I sit on my beach balcony...
With a view of people that frolic in harmony.**

**People come from many places in this land...
To spend a day in water and sand.**

**Families meet here to stay in touch...
And enjoy a day that does not cost much.**

**I really enjoy all this...
But I do have one wish.**

**For Frans my dear...
To still be near.**

**Because all good things in life I would enjoy more...
If they were as before.**

**This view would be so much better...
If I could enjoy it with my soul mate together.**

**And I try...
Not to cr.,**

**I always was able to take care of others in need...
And expected to be freed.**

**From having to shed tears...
While depending on others in my aging years**



Marie Jose Temmink

08-14-2012

NO CURE

**I can't think straight...
Just sit here and wait.**

**I have felt like this for over a week...
Hoping I soon no longer have to seek.**

**A diagnosis of my misery...
And instead find a cure for this episode in my medical history.**

**In the ER I was told that the MRI looked good...
But the head specialist felt I should.**

**Have a brain and ear scan...
Because only then...**

**Can they determine why...
They saw fluid on the MRI.**

**For my nausea she ordered a pill...
Which was a waste that ran up my medical bill.**

**The listed side effects, no kidding.
Are identical to my symptoms since the beginning.**

**I came here to seek...
A cure for dizziness, nausea, arrhythmia and fatigue...**

**But again I was sent home...
To where I live alone...**

**To feel more of the same...
of the symptoms I had before I came.**

**I took one pill and hoped for the best...
But the result was a night without rest.**

**I was awake...
With a terrible headache...**

**And while I lay in bed...
I wondered Medical Care ...What is that?**



Marie Jose Temmink

08-14-2012

ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

**My brain and ear scan was done today...
But the results I will not get until Friday.**

**So my daughter, Daphne, did insist...
To see her acupuncturist.**

**Because her belief...
Is that it might give me relief,**

**Instead of having to wait...
In this debilitated state.**

**I do not have to mention...
That I was apprehensive when she scheduled this intervention.**

**I know Western health care does not look for a cure...
but just promotes pill use for sure.**

**I am ready to try an alternative way...
Even if acupuncture does not help, as some say.**

**In this debilitated state I cannot remain...
And trust I can only gain.**

**So, tomorrow I will try something new...
His name will probably be Wong or Wu.**

**A few dollars out of my own purse.. .
Is worth a change to feel better instead of worse.**



Marie Jose Temmink

08-16-2012

BELIEVER

Yesterday I spent...
Some time on an unconventional treatment.

As I was laying on the table,..
I wondered if I could believe in this fable.

But in the skilled hands of Wong...
I felt this could not be wrong.

The manipulation and massage of my head and neck...
Could only improve my “feeling like heck.”

And I was amazed...
At how skillfully, without pain, the needles were placed.

For my nausea was a remedy...
By stimulating the flow of body energy.

I was willing to “go with the flow”
Because my energy had been so very low.

And if this will help me to recoup...
It will make me a believer in Wong’s group.

Believe it or not, by the next day...
My nausea had gone away.

This man must be gifted...
Because my debilitated feeling was lifted.

I am still tired and weak.
But what a difference since last week.

So I believe that this 1000 year old Chinese cure
Might also heal other things I endure.



Marie Jose Temmink

08-18-2012

TV

**These last two weeks, I have watched more TV...
Than normally, in a year I see.**

**And I have come to realize...
That spending my days like this is not very wise.**

**Because the only thing you gain...
From sitting in front of this tube is back pain.**

**Or a brainwashed head...
From all the nonsense that is being said.**

**It is all about the Obama and Romney guys,
And all the other Washington lies.**

**And when you watch judge Judy or Dr. Phil...
You wonder if the whole country has become mentally ill.**

**But the biggest indoctrination...
Is the constant push for medication.**

**They tell you laughingly that you can expect...
More than one serious side effect.**

**And in case the one who dies is you..
Your family can try to sue.**

**It is all very sad,..
But this world seems to have gone mad.**

**Common sense seems a thing of the past...
But the current trends I hope won't last.**

Cont.



08-18-2012

PAGE 2

**When I arrived here in 1964...
There were opportunities galore.**

**But the big difference I see...
Is that more people now want things for free.**

**They do not realize that it means ill-fate...
When we all depend on the state.**

**Because none of us will be elated...
When everything is over regulated.**

**Being self sufficient and independent is a gift...
And keeps us from being adrift.**

**While watching TV at home alone...
I see a nation with no back bone.**

**And a future of blight...
While our politicians constantly fight.**

**About maintaining their own job and luxury...
While the masses face more and more misery.**

**It is all about some peoples greed...
Instead of addressing every ones need.**

**I am so sorry it has come to this...
But for my grandchildren I wish.**

**Old values, honesty and trust...
Because to be happy that is a must.**

**I should worry about all this no more...
As through worse cycles, the world has gone before.**

Marie Jose Temmink

09-14-2012

THE END OF CRUISING?

My recent misery now has a name...
Named by a French physician who got fame.

By diagnosing Mal De Debarquement...
And for me this is how it went.

I have experienced motion ...
Ever since I left the ocean.



I was stable at sea...
But adjusting to land is not easy for me.

The illness is related to disembarkation. ..
After which you do not find body stabilization.

Which you are prone to loose...
After being on a cruise.

It is a very unsettling feeling...
With no cure for healing.

I walk unsteady like on eggs...
Because I lost my "land" legs.

For more cruises I have the Drs. Permission...
But he warns me it will most likely aggravate my condition.

So I have to find different ways...
To replace my much loved cruising days.

This hobby I need to kick...
As it was luxury that made me sick.

I am thankful for the places I have been...
But from now on closer to my home I will be seen.

I have no reason to complain...
As new experiences I will gain.

Marie Jose Temmink

09-16-2012

SAILING



**We started something new...
In 1972.**

**Sailing was a dream of John...
Before his best years would be gone.**

**We enrolled in a sailing class...
Which we were required to pass...**

**Before sailing on the Pacific...
Which we knew would be terrific.**

**We joined calypso sailing club in Newport Beach..
And hired an instructor that sailed along to teach.**

**John and I felt in heaven...
Sailing with our daughters at 5 and 7.**

**But life went on busier than expected...
And soon our hobby was neglected.**

**But when we moved in 1989 to long Beach...
Sailing again was within reach.**

**And we drove often a short way...
To our own yacht in Alamitos bay.**

**Johns dream came true...
When for his 55th birthday we bought a new Vision 32.**

**The yacht was not often left alone...
As it was moored in the downtown marina, a short walk from home.**

Cont.

09-16-2012

**Our plan was to go sailing for a year...
As we prepared for an early retirement that was coming near.**

**As immigrants we had worked hard and reached our financial independence goal...
And we're ready to follow the dream of our soul.**

**But Johns unknown inherited illness...
Brought abrupt stillness.**

**The last few hours of his life he was on his beloved ship named "Time out"
Then abruptly came our life's darkest cloud...**

**John...
Was gone.**

**And he no longer sails in the pacific...
But at a place that is even more terrific.**

**While I trust I will see my Captain...
Again**



Marie Jose Temmink

09-17-2012

John Temmink Construction Inc.

**It was in Gerard Johns blood...
Heart and gut.**

**He was born into a Dutch family...
That owned a contracting entity.**

**He studied to be a civil engineer...
In Leeuwarden, a town that was-not near.**

**Then to his Dads elation...
He joined the family business into the third generation.**

**He made his first guilder...
As a Dutch builder.**

**But working in this firm...
Limited what he could earn.**

**His parents cruised to the USA in 1962...
And came back with a an exiting view.**

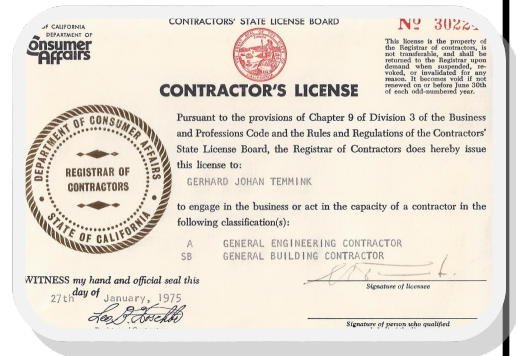
**Their stories and elation....
Expended Gerhard Johns imagination.**

**We planned a five year stay...
In the USA.**

**Where he would learn...
A lot about building before his return.**

**But soon after to California we came...
His plans for the future were no longer the same.**

**This is we're he would stay...
Return to Holland? No way!**



Cont.

09-17-2012 .

**So his future of earnings and fun...
Began in this land with ocean desert mountains and for ever sun.**

**His dad was disappointed but he did understand...
That his son did not want to return to his rainy birth land.**

**His success was in the air...
His expertise was in demand everywhere.**

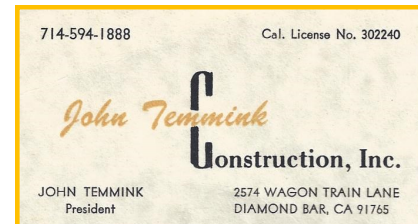
**But his desire was to be independent...
And of to contractors school he went.**

**In January 1975 he received his general engineering license A ...
And general building contractors license B on the same day.**

**His first contract was a refrigerated food storage plant...
And it soon became his specialty in this hot land.**

**He expanded faster then expected...
and he elected ...**

**The established a corporation C business entity...
To shield possible personal calamity.**



**Long he did not have to think...
On November 9 1979 he launched John Temmink construction Inc.**

**Alongside his specialty he built luxury custom homes here and there...
His company was in demand and building everywhere .**

**But being frugal and Dutch...
He did not borrow much.**

**He was taught early that one bird in ones hand ..
Was more valuable then 10 in the air in any land .**

**So when the interest became to expensive...
He was not apprehensive...**

Cont.

09-17-2012 .

**To safeguard his earnings of the past...
Knowing his success might not last...**

**And after many successful years ...
He closed his company without tears.**

**And sooner then later...
He was offered a position as senior estimator.**

**With a well know developer were he did no less...
Then also for him create success.**

**There he bridged his time until retirement...
Which as a sailor he planned to spend.**

**But before that day on April 24 1992 he died unexpected...
But left his family well protected.**

**His life was to short but well spend...
And we know where he went.**

**We will all be delighted...
When again we are reunited.**

Marie Jose Temmink

10-07-2012

MATER FAMILIA

**It is October seven...
And with Frans family visiting I will have a day in heaven.**

**But first I had to deal...
With some other family wounds that do not easily heal.**

**The first news I saw...
Was a long e-mail from my youngest brother in law.**

**He calls me the Mater Familia that is very wise...
And he asked me for my advice...**

**To help him in his pursuit...
To handle a long standing family dispute.**

**With his older brother and his wife...
Of whom they think interfere with his and his wife's live.**

**These brothers and their wives do not get along ...
Because they always think it is the other person that is wrong.**

**I was married into this family of seven, with the oldest son...
And hearing about their problems is never fun.**

**Some had a strained relationship with their Mother...
And early on, I became their confidant being the wife of their big brother**

**Over the years I listened for hours And I heard many details...
Off someone's "poor me" tales.**

**I always gave my heart felt advise ...
And aimed to be mature and wise.**

**It was not always a pleasant position...
Knowing everyone's personal problem and condition.**

Cont .

**But their secrets I do not share...
With any other pair.**

**My words are always mend...
To resolve issues and have their relationships blend.**

**But for knowing to much...
I risk that some might not stay in touch.**

**But if need be .. I accept the blame...
As for my words... I will never feel shame.**

**I am sorry right now I have no time to respond to his request...
because I am entertaining guest.**

**But I let him know that I will do my best...
To help get this dilemma of his chest.**

**I left a message to let him know I will call to talk on Tuesday...
And hope he and his brother can meet half way.**

**But considering everything I know...
The chance for a lasting truce among them is very low.**

Marie Jose Temmink

10-24-2012

Breast awareness month

**It is difficult to stay sober...
When daily being reminded of breast cancer in October.**

**I do not intend to hurt my friend...
But his e-mail reached a dead end.**

**I will not send it to nine people in nine minutes to get good news...
Because I do not share his views.**

**It is a given,...
The winners are the promoters of the pink ribbon.**

**This is a foundation...
That begs for your donation.**

**But most promoters keep most of the pile...
To enhance their luxury business style..**

**It is not about the patients what is the best...
But about some promoters self interest.**

**The focus is on recruiting more patients for sure..
Not about finding a cure.**

**One does not need to be schooled...
To recognize the public is being fooled.**

**There are no statistics till day..
That cancer goes away...**

**Or any guarantee...
That after taking chemo you will be cancer free.**

**More and more patients are becoming very wise...
And do not destroy their body by taking chemo at a high price.**

CONT .

**We do not get an honest answer...
When on a death certificate it reads "died of cancer"**

**I pray to the Lord ...
That someday soon they will have to record.**

**The true cause of death...
But don't hold your breath.**

**Because till date...
A lot of money has been made.**

**So remind your dying honey...
The treatment does not focus on life but money.**

**I believe more people with cancer would be alive today...
If from chemo they had stayed away.**

**But this truth will remain hidden from us all...
The public will remain up against the wall.**

**Another patient with cancer is a source of income ...
for your medical team and then some.**

**They don't support a cancer finding mission...
Their focus is not on remission.**

**I promote eating resting an living well...
Until someone honestly can tell.**

**And get an honest answer...
How all the money is spend that they collect for cancer.**

**And we are able to review ...
Statistics that are current and true.**

Marie Jose Temmink

10-25-2012

48 years in the USA

**Today...
it is 48 years ago we came to the USA.**

**We arrived from Amsterdam in New York by plane...
Then traveled on to Los Angeles by train.**

**It was a new sight...
For three days corn fields left and right.**

**And almost I let out a yell...
When on the train they served us corn as well.**

**But soon did we envision ...
That coming here was a terrific decision.**

**We certainly had not expected...
So soon to feel connected.**

**This country is as good as it gets...
And we never had any regrets.**

**With opportunities galore...
A reason to return existed no more.**

**This land has been good to my family and me...
We live here very well and free.**

**I want to be buried here...
With my loved ones near.**

**I thank God we arrived here 48 years ago today...
And decided then to stay.**

Marie Jose Temmink

11-01-2012

My computer

Having no computer is a strange sensation this morning...
Even though I had a warning.

That my computer I can not use till later today...
And my time I would have to spend some other way.

for the interim I was so lucky I had...
An I pad.

But It seems I feel lost without my computer...
So I polished my copper and pewter.

Because you see...
idle I do not like to be.

I was conditioned early on ...
Not to waste time on a yawn.

I was influenced by nuns till after nursing school...
And I learned to mind their rule.

I prevent having a tizzy...
By keeping busy.

Now I wait...
And hope Daphne will not be late.

So I can continue my activity...
And not worry about passivity.

At my age the computer has become my friend....
With whom a lot of my time is spend.

I am happy and at ease ...
As long as my computer does not freeze.



Marie Jose Temmink

11-01-2012

My Library

**I spend a lot of time...
In this library of mine.**

**Here to my past if feel a link...
And the room is conducive to think.**

**Surrounded by manuals holding the past. . .
My days go by very fast.**

**I add my present experiences in life daily in my book...
For the next generation to have a look**

**Of how I spend my days...
And how different are the ways.**

**Then how they will go thru life...
In spare time or work from 8-5.**

**My believe has always been clear...
In order to be happy here.**

**One must understand the past...
Because each generation will be asked.**

**How we coped in good times and bad...
And about the experiences we had.**

**So in this library I document my story...
Of hardship and glory.**

**I hope it has some worth...
For the next family generation on earth.**



Marie Jose Temmink

11-01-2012 ..

Super storm Sandy

Never before...

Was there this much damage on the New Jersey shore.

Residents are really in trouble...

In this heap of rubble.

This storm's eruption. ..

Has caused total destruction.

It will take years...

To dry their tears.

And probably longer to clean and repair...

While coping with loss and despair.

It is difficult to understand...

The damage that was caused on their land.

We are never sure...

What danger might lure...

To upset our daily routine...

Or what mess we have to clean.

That Mother Nature when not kind...

leaves behind.

But after the storm in the early dawn...

People realize life goes on.

And realize it is all worth...

For the chance of living on earth.



Marie Jose Temmink

11-05-2012

Letters from Mother

Letters from my Mother...
Outnumbered any other.

I emigrated across the sea...
And weekly she wrote to me.

She kept me up to date...
With everyone's fate.

She wrote who was born...
And what relationship was torn.

She informed of who had died...
And who was the latest bride.

I learned all the village news...
And everyone's views.

In her letters were recipes and tips...
And newspaper clips.

And in almost every letter...
She wrote about times not getting better.

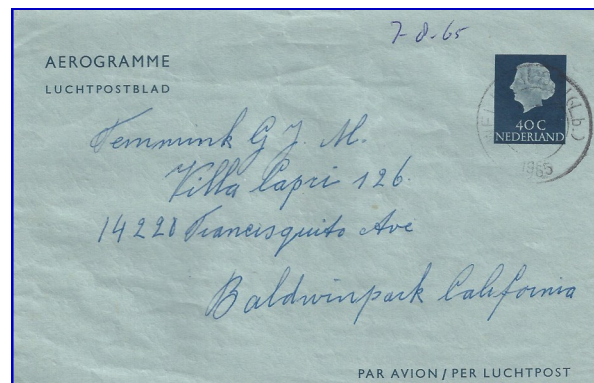
She wrote about pains due to getting old...
And she dreaded when the season became cold.

She had grown up in a family of only thirteen...
Because her mother had a few miscarriages in between .

Her desire had been to become a midwife...
But it turned out to be she had a different kind of life.

She married my Dad and as a team...
Managing the farm they were seen .

This life on the farm...
brought independence without harm.



CONT .

11-05-2012

**She managed the life stock and fields with my Dad...
And was happy for the success they had.**

**She did not go to college...
But villagers respected and trusted her knowledge.**

**She was well liked and kind...
And always had the welfare of others on her mind.**

**She never gossiped, because it was her belief...
That in most cases it would cause mostly grieve.**

**She was the favorite aunt of my nephews and nieces...
And they all loved her to pieces.**

**For being a perfect host...
An aunt who cared the most.**

**They thought there was much charm...
In spending their vacation on the farm.**

**Her home cooked food...
Put everyone in a good mood.**

**She had good taste...
And taught us all the prevention of waste.**

**She continued to teach...
Everyone within reach.**

**For most things she had a cure...
She influenced my life for sure.**

**She often flew across the sea...
To visit me.**

**I was lucky to call her Mother...
She was like no other.**

Marie Jose Temmink

11-09-2012

SLEEPLESS NIGHT

**For goodness sake...
I am still awake.**

**Damn...
It is already two am.**

**I could cry...
Because I do not know why.**

**My life without stress...
Causes my sleeplessness.**

**I have counted many sheep...
But cannot fall asleep.**

**Usually I sleep well...
But this night is not so swell.**

**I decide to get up...
And prepare a cup...**

**Of tea..
That I hope will help me...**

**Relax while I pray...
That soon I may...**

**Again drift of to dreamland...
And spend the rest of the night as planned.**

**I did...
But in the morning I did not feel fit**



Marie Jose Temmink

11-07-2012

SENIOR CONNECT

**In these fast times you are expected...
To stay connected.**

**But you do not have to be on the go...
To become a computer pro.**

**To no longer feel alone...
Have a computer lessons in your home.**

**Stop being in a daze...
And create happy days.**

**Instructions can be designed...
To prevent you from staying behind.**

**You will be less lonely or ill...
When you dazzle your family and friends with your new skill.**

**For an affordable price...
You can soon be computer wise.**



Marie Jose Temmink

11-27-2012

SENIORS

**It would be more comfortable for all of you...
If we excepted things easier then we do.**

**But our feathers get ruffled easy these days ...
And we are irritated in many ways.**

**Our stamina is very limited...
While our temper is still very spirited.**

**We try to stay calm...
But can explode as a bomb.**

**We used to have a lot of patience...
And were able to keep a lid on irritations.**

**At this age we should have peace...
But It is difficult to feel at ease.**

**We wished we knew...
What to do.**

**To see more sunny rays...
And look for more pleasant ways.**

**Because we are all after...
At the end of our life to have more laughter.**

**But that is easier said then done...
When one sees more clouds then sun.**

**We do our best...
To live with zest.**

**And when our feathers get ruffled...
We try to keep our temperament muffled.**

**Maybe it is regression ...
Or a sign of depression...**

Cont.

**But these days we only hear news..
Which adds to our blues.**

**It is sad...
But most of us have done, been there, or heard that.**

**It seems that no more...
We can accept things if different then before.**

**All we can think and say...
That nature has its way.**

**There comes a point of no return...
No matter how much you earn..**

**We need to make room ...
So someone else can bloom.**

**One might still feel credible...
But no need to fight the inevitable.**

**People before us were not insane...
They just experienced the same.**

**No need for anyone to have an illusion ...
To get an exclusion.**

**No matter how little or how much net worth...
our time is limited on this earth**

**So take advise from this younger generation, and go with the flow...
Until it is time to go.**



Marie Jose Temmink

11-15-2012

HOME ALONE

Seniors are prone...To be home alone.

Life passes for different people at different speeds.

But eventually it is our home that fills our needs.

The clock has a different sound ...By the time you prefer to be homebound.

You do not need to drive...to feel contentment in life.

And when we no longer work or play...Nature has its way...

To stop our desire to roam...And be content at home.

Others will not understand...Until in this comfort zone they land.

I would not want to miss...This time to reminisce.

And in quietness, I use my mind...To remember everyone that was kind.

And realize it is not worth...To think about the ones that caused hurt.

Wanting to be alone is not a sign of depression ...Or having an obsession.

Someday, you to, may reach this senior time zone...

When nothing is better than being home alone.



Marie Jose Temmink

11-27-2012

Elder Abuse

This note should be send...To an abused friend...

Who fits the mold...Of being in a stronghold.

Her sons anger as a result of booze...Results in her physical and emotional abuse.

The obvious are easy to spot...But the hidden ones are not.

He will deny...And tell you why...

There is no use...To suspect him of abuse.

Why would we ever think...That there is a link...

Between the big bruise...And is hands and shoes.

She continues to deny...But not because she is shy.

She thinks for him there is nothing to gain...If she shares her pain.

With authorities to whom she is not willing to admit...That she was hit

But unless she faces reality...There will be no end to this calamity

On friends she can only lean...If she allows them to intervene.

Ignoring their advise... Is not very wise.

No need to call them to complain...Only yourself can prevent the pain

As soon as your are alone...Pick up the phone...

And call the police today...To have your abuser taken away.

I hope you heard what I said...Jail for him is better then you being dead.

Marie Jose Temmink

11-28-2012

MY CHILDHOOD XMAS

On Xmas Eve after lunch I went with my dad and brother into the forest to select the perfect tree...

It was our property and the tree was free.

**My father kept the horse in to me,
As we followed while the tree was pulled home.**

**We scooped up a lot of moss to put under the tree...
Which was carefully carried by my brother and me.**



**Then it was a joy to see ...
How my Mother, sister and me decorated the tree.**

**The moss was placed under the tree and looked like green rolling hills...
On which the simple Nativity set was placed with no frills.**



**The room soon filled with pine smelling air...
And there was a Xmas atmosphere everywhere.**

**It was as if the cows knew...
It was Xmas for them too.**

**Colored and silver breakable balls were carefully arranged...
And the broken ones were exchanged.**

**Icicles were draped on the branches and looked real...
It had such mesmerizing appeal.**

**The tree was crowned with a shiny peak...
That looked very delicate and sleek.**

**The radio played my favorite Xmas tune...
While outside the snow was lit by the moon .**

**The wood stove was still burning red...
When we went early to bed.**



**Because my father placed our shoes around the stove to get warm...
To be comfortable during snow or a storm.**

**When we walked to midnight mass...
With a fast warm feet pass.**

**The church was dark with only a few candles lit...
We're we had a family bench to sit.**

**The choir sang in full glory...
And the priest told every year the same Xmas story.**

**When we got home it was a feast...
We had a wonderful breakfast before awakening and milking the beast.**

**The candles were lit one by one...
And burned till they were almost gone.**

**I must say.. .
This was my favorite part of the day.**

**Back to church at eleven and again at three...
No time today to be free.**

**The dinner table showed the best tablecloth and dishes ...
And my mother tried to serve food that filled all our wishes.**

**But always the traditional duck stuffed with prunes...
While giving thanks during pleasant holiday tunes.**

**I am thankful for life's pleasantries...
That remain in my memories.**



Marie Jose Temmink

11-28-2012

SOUL MATE

It is great...To have a soul mate.

**But it is a must...
To have one you can trust.**

**One who can listen to your pleases.
And put you at ease.**

**One who can for your own good...
Tell you the truth.**

Without being mean...Or causing a scene.

One with who you can share...Or compare.

One with who you laugh and cry...And know why...

**One who shares your sorrow...
And encourages you to face tomorrow.**

**One who gives you a mental rub...
And who lifts you up.**

**One who applauds an shears...
And helps you over your fears..**

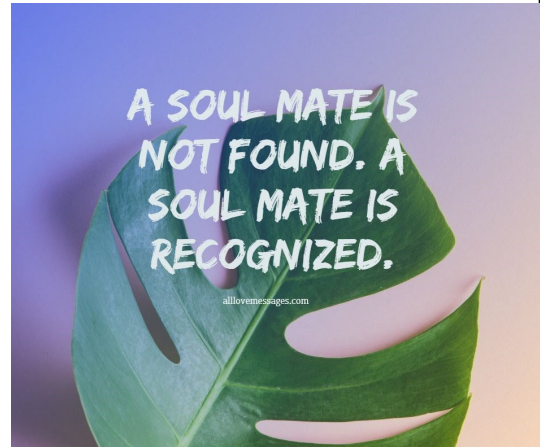
**There is no norm...
They come in any form.**

**They are pleasant and sweet...
And do not compete.**

**They are always there for you...
But you must reciprocate too.**

**For them not to go away...
You must meet half way.**

**A soul mate by any measure...
Is a valuable treasure.**



Marie Jose Temmink

11-28-2012

USERS

**I am comfortable to say this out loud...
Because you might know who I am talking about.**

**Some people are users...
And abusers.**

**They are phony...
And full of baloney.**

**They may be family or call themselves a friend...
But nothing they say is meant.**

**It is hard to believe...
But they cause you nothing but grief.**

**They cause you to feel paralyzed...
And demoralized.**

**Only if you do not mind tears. . .
Can you keep them around for years.**

**But it would be a better thing...
To cut the string.**

**To be your own savior. ..
And recognize their behavior.**

**Because there is nothing to gain ...
By being unnecessary in pain.**

**No matter what you do...
They are jealous of you.**

**They get their kick...
By making you sick.**

**No need to offend...
but your time with someone else is better spent**

Marie Jose Temmink

12-19-2012

NAIL SALON

I arrived at 9 am...And I heard “good morning Mam”

She was sorting her mail...And stated “You like nail”?

I replied "Yes a manicure and pedicure” Her reply: “I can do, sure”!

Here have seat,... will do for you very neat.

We two...Will do.

**I did not understand...But figured one for my feet,
the other for my hand**



It could not rest with peace...As they jabbered in Vietnamese.

They treated me as an object...

With little respect.

I tried to insist...But for them I did not exist.

They communicated but not with me...How rude can one be.

I felt frustration...An unpleasant sensation.

But no need to get nervous...

I came here for a service.

For my hand and feet...Which they provided very neat.

No need to make waves or noise...I have no other choice.

It is a pity...But every nail salon in this City.

Treats their customers the same ...Unless you have an Oriental name

Marie Jose Temmink

12-26-2012

GENERATION GAP.

**No need to expect
To orally connect.**

**Since as it was before...
Will be no more.**

**Seniors seem to be no longer in existence...
As this generation seems to connect and communicate more long distance**

**No need to guess...
they rather send an SMS.**

**No need to dispute...
accept you are living among the young, deaf and mute**

**No need to wonder...
Their eyes remain fixed on yonder**

**Let it be...
They will not address you or me.**

**They seem numb...
As they relate thru their fingers and thumb.**

**More an more young people in this land...
Are seen carrying their brain in their hand.**

**And without apprehension...
All day they chat thru an extension.**

**An answer to a question they personally asked in the past...
Can now be found on the web as fast.**

**Seniors read and are told...
The young have no interest in what is old.**

Cont.

**But with all due respect to this generation...
Seniors have a different expectation.**

**For them again to speak out loud...
with their mouth.**

**Instead of letting their fingers do the walking...
And their contraptions do the talking .**

**It is sad to think...
That youth does not miss this link.**

**Or are seeing...
The value of Seniors that caused their being.**

**No dialog with this generation...
Will be of a long duration.**

**But by the time they are ready again to orally talk and dispute...
Our generations will be forever mute**

Marie Jose Temmink



12-26-2012

HOLIDAY SHOPPING

**People look forward with anticipation...
And dream of Holidays above expectations.**

**Many words are said...
And they plan months ahead.**

**Hours are spend in the mall...
To buy presents for all.**

**While each wonders why...
They have this urge to buy.**

**Imported cheaply made stuff...
Of which everyone already has enough.**

**Many seem to loose common sense...
And rush till being tired and tense.**

**Then when it all becomes to hard...
They resort to buying a gift card.**

**Which they think will be admired...
But often remains in ones wallet till expired.**

**People have to work to hard to make a living...
To waste their time and money on this kind of gift giving.**

**A real Xmas could be spend...
Without wasting a cent.**

**Fellowship and home cooked food...
Can keep everyone in a relaxed and good mood.**

**People need to think back, way back when...
And follow the habit of three wise men.**

**That brought a gift for a new baby...
But not for every child man and lady.**

**Christ birth was not meant...
For everyone to spend their last cent.**



Marie Jose Temmink

12-31-2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR

For the first time in 73 years...No hugs, kisses or tears.

It was a strange sensation...This lonely celebration.

I watched the fireworks on the queen Mary...While I enjoyed a glass of cherry.

I did not feel lonely or being alone...As I was connected on line and by phone.

Many calls and emails came my way...To say:

Happy new year and good health...Which I cherish more than wealth.

But more people my age seemed to be at home...Alone.

It is either that we are wiser...Of have no more energy to be the party organizer.

So I sat by myself...Till the clock struck twelve.

And while the fireplace and candles were lit...I felt melancholic, but just a bit

I turned the page of this last year...Without a tear.

I look forward to the year to come,...knowing I am better of then some

The next year I will spend...Traveling to a new continent.

And not moan...For being alone.

But try with ease,...To exercise inner peace.

Life is what it is...But that is no reason to miss...

New challenges that come my way...While keeping the blues at bay.

At times this is easier said than done...

But I know behind every cloud again shines the sun

Marie Jose Temmink