

For Our World

**We need to stop.
Just stop.
Stop for a moment...
Before anybody
Says or does anything
That may hurt anyone else.
We need to be silent.
Just silent.
Silent for a moment...
Before we forever lose
The blessing of songs
That grow in our hearts.
We need to notice.
Just notice.
Notice for a moment...
Before the future slips away
Into ashes and dust of humility.
Stop, be silent, and notice...
In so many ways, we are the same.
Our differences are unique treasures.
We have, we are, a mosaic of gifts
To nurture, to offer, to accept.
We need to be.
Just be.
Be for a moment...
Kind and gentle, innocent and trusting,
Like children and lambs,
Never judging or vengeful
Like the judging and vengeful.
And now, let us pray,
Differently, yet together,
Before there is no earth, no life,
No chance for peace.**

**Mattie J.T. Stepanek ©
September 11, 2001**

Hope Through Heartsongs
Hyperion, 2002

Just Peace: A Message of Hope
Andrews McMeel, 2006

English Original www.mattieonline.com

For Our World- Kwa Ulimwengu Wetu

**Tunahitaji kufikiri.
Kufikiri tu.
Kufikiri kwa muda...
Kabla yoyote
Aseme au afanye chochote
Kinachoweza kumuumiza mwingine.
Tunahitaji kukimya.
Kimya tu.
Kimya kwa muda...
Kabla ya kupoteza milele
Baraka za nyimbo
Inayokuwa moyoni mwetu.
Tunahitaji kuona.
Kuona tu.
Kuona kwa muda...
Kabla maisha kutoweka
Kuwa majivu na vumbi ya unyonge.
Fikiri, nyamaza, na uone...
Tunafanana kwa njia nyingi.
Tofauti zetu ni thamani maalumu.
Tunayo tu vipawa vya ukwasi
Kutunza, kutoa, na kupokea.
Tunahitaji kuwa.
Kuwa tu.
Kuwa kwa muda...
Wakarimu, wangwana, watakatifu na waaminifu,
Kama watoto na wana kondou,
Bila kuhukumu wala kulipiza kisasi
Kama mahakimu na walipa kisasi.
Na sasa, tuombe,
Kwa njia tofauti tofauti, ilhali pamoja,
Kabla ya ulimwengu, hakuna maisha,
Hakuna nafasi kwa amani.**

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**Swahili Translation by Kennedy Onyoni
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