

Dear friends,
Our people face the world with a gray mask.
Our friends and neighbors feign protection,
Feign "goodwill to all"
And "freedom from slavery",
Whereas we are hiding, behind gray masks, from the
Very truths we must be facing!

Truths of poverty,
Truths of racism,
Truth of inequality,
Truths of civil rights,
And climate change,
And Abuse,
Corruption,
Pain,
And deprivation.
A voice stolen,
In which retrieval is
Punishable by death...
A death of surrender to the masks we hide behind.

One day we will not be able to breathe,
But instead
We will inhale the villain of the
Fairytale called "Life".
We will cast away the hero,
And the antihero,
The sidekick,
And the comic relief;
And for what gain?

This is the
single greatest challenge
We face.

Everyday, we are handed a microphone with our names on it, your name.
Everyday, we take up papers, lists after lists of words we can speak into that microphone.

Everyday, is another moment, another hour, in which we can take our voice back.
And everyday,
We give it all away.

Denial of the truth
Is the poison that
Plagues our hearts and
Snaps in half the value that stirs our souls.

Democracy; a government gently laid on the idea
Of a voice unmasked for one and all.
Flawed, like the world,
Like our neighbours,
Like we are flawed.

The voice of the young
Can be stirred,
This one, strong, true, soul of passion
Can be vigorously
Awakened to the truth that lies in wait
Right before its eyes.

Only together can our united hands
Search for a purpose.
Only together can our voices
Lift above the voice of a world saying
"Get down, be silent,"
And carry on the shoulders of
The new generation.

It is not just a voice,
Just waves of energy passing through the still air,
It is a new future.

Dear friends,
Only together can we become unmasked,
Only together can we find the strength in our youthful arms

and use our voices to build the new tomorrow.