A Tribute to September 11, 2001
B Phillips

Citation

Abstract

i watched
the world explode today
and heaven
fall to ground...

with smoke and fire
and ash and dust,
life, itself, rained down

the towers that are
now towers that be -
like a child's lonely lego set
or an empty house of cards,
i watched
the world explode today
and heaven
fall to ground...

then - right there in the
middle of mid-day morn,
life rose up from the streets -

people cried
and people screamed,
those that made it down
people jumped
and people fell,
burned and broken, unfound
(lying there on a street of gold,
curled up in the arms of god)...

but, the mountains of ruin
and bodies-debris - could not stop others
from running ... not away - but to...
right to the heart of that monster -
(into the towers that be)

you see, a thousand heroes, a thousand names
and not one of them paused to listen...
to their own fear - to their own doubts -
to their own sense of right and wrong
all of them just ran -
right to the cloud of dust -
(into the smoke and fire and ash)
trying to do what they do...

now, can you see !
that
is the power of man -
(to do the things we do)
without stories or excuses or songs of praise,
even as the world caves in -
the strength of man stays true...

i watched
the world explode today
and heaven
fall to ground...

with smoke and fire
and ash and dust,
the towers that are
now towers that be -
like a child's lonely lego set
or an empty house of cards,
i watched
the world explode today
and heaven
fall to ground...

References
A Tribute to September 11, 2001

Author Information
Bradley J. Phillips, MD
Dept. of Trauma & Critical Care, Boston University School of Medicine, Boston Medical Center