

“To Ferguson”
by Pat Jackson

Get up today and know this.
You're not just called to do a job.
you're standing in the gap
between the peaceful and the mob.

You look and there are ashes
where people's livelihoods should be.
We don't believe you failed at all.
You're so much more than we can see.

Tornadoes were for practice in this unique community.
Destructive force can't end your dreams with anonymous impunity.
The human miracle is here. truly, Ferguson is unity.

People speak of victims, of those who still survive
when forces make them question how and why they stayed alive.
In Ferguson, you persevere, recovering to thrive.

You're cleaning up the damage, showing up and pitching in.
You know it's not about the outward pigment of our skin.
It takes open minds and open hearts, for peace and justice start within.

Her people choose to be there. You come together and rebuild.
We understate her citizens in calling you strong-willed.
From the ashes rise the Phoenix of your dreams no hatred killed.

The world watches you hold strong
for all, to stand for right and change what's wrong.

So let the Universe provide
with all due care and speed
every resource to help Ferguson
now, in her hour of need.

This morning, just get up again to do the best you can.
People of the world are seeing that you never ran.
in the spirit of the Phoenix, rise majestically and

may we, as mankind,
arise with you
to at last become kind man.