

(Inspired by Thomas Paine's *The Crisis*)

The Crisis II

Driven back, men petrified.
This brave exploit performed by broken forces.
Lead.
By a woman,
by Joan of Arc.

I call not upon a few, but upon all.
Not one state or two
but every state.

Courage is what all men
need to search for.
They need to find the courage within.

Let it be told to the future world.
In the depths of winter,
nothing but hope and virtue could survive.

The poor and rich will
suffer or rejoice alike.
Because you see,
little might have saved the whole.
“But he whose heart is firm,
whose conscience approves his conduct,
will pursue his principles unto death!”

I see the reasoning,
“as straight and clear as a ray of light.”
They break into my home,
destroy my property,
kill and or threaten!

Am I to suffer it?
What signifies whether
king or common man.
He be countryman or not.

Whether done by individual villain, or army.
Reason,
to the root, we shall find no difference.
For punish is one case, pardon in the other.