



## Two Poems by Concetta La Placa

### CHILDHOOD BETRAYED.

A cry of profound pain  
rises in these hours  
throughout the universe.

A cry for help, stifled by the indifference and indolence  
of those in power,

They are those who, out of vain honor, have donned only the  
garb of warmongers.

They, stunned and helpless, appear before the tearful  
and desperate gaze of an Afghan girl.

She cries. She knows she has been abandoned by everyone, to the cruel history of her tormented  
people.

She knows that a cruel fate  
will soon deliver the other women  
into the hands of the ruthless Taliban.

They are cruel men,  
ruthless fighters  
who know no God.

Her sad eyes reveal  
that, soon, women will be wounded  
in their dignity as human beings.

Yes, soon,  
their free will,  
as females, will be overwhelmed.

And she, as a child,  
has already been deprived  
of her innocent  
childhood, which  
no one will ever give back to her!

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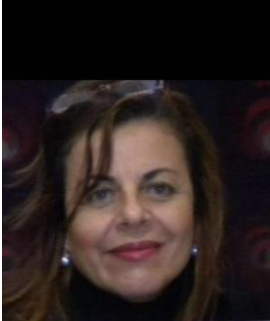
### POIGNANT LONELINESS'.

The silence is like a shock wave for the soul.  
It invests me and pulls me into a rare sonorous depth of melancholy.  
And, thus, imaginary echoes of sounds in the distance come to me.  
Then, memories and black and white images begin to crowd my mind in solitary dance.



I turn around and with me there is only the shadow of my yearning loneliness.

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### **Concetta La Placa Bio-Note**

**Concetta La Placa** is an Italian poet, writer, aphorist, critic, translator, and social activist based in Rome. She is the author of *Alessandria Today*, an online magazine, and an active presence in the international poetic scene. La Placa has published seven poetry collections and contributes to international magazines worldwide.

She serves as an Ambassador of Peace and Culture for the International Forum for Creativity and Humanity (IFCH) and has been appointed as an ambassador for the ASIH SASAMI Indonesia Foundation for the period 2025–2030, recognized by Dr. (HC) Rini Asih Sasami, President of the foundation. Additionally, she is an official member of the “Cattedra delle Donne” organization, the Peace Charter Project led by Dr. (Hc) María Elena Ramírez, and the Millennium Renaissance Group, founded and presided over by Prof. George Onsy (RRM3).

La Placa has held professional roles as a teacher at L.U.M.S.A. University in Rome and as a contributor to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies.