

the FREEDOM BELL (AN ODE TO FREEDOM)



THE FREEDOM BELL RANG
TWO CENTURIES PAST,
AND A FREED PEOPLE VOWED
THAT FREEDOM WOULD LAST

THE BELL IS A SYMBOL,
YET FREEDOM IS REAL.
THE BELL CAN BE HEARD
BUT FREEDOM YOU FEEL.

THE BELL'S PEAL RECALLS
FREEDOM'S LONG FIGHT,
AGAINST MERCILESS KINGS
AND TYRANNY'S MIGHT

FREEDOM IS DELIVERANCE
FROM OPPRESSION AND NEED,
FREEDOM IS THE RIGHT
TO THOUGHT, WORD, AND DEED.

FREEDOM IS LIBERTY!
FREEDOM IS CHOICE!
THE EXPRESSION OF JUSTICE
IS FREEDOM'S VOICE!

FREEDOM IS PRECIOUS
AND MUST BE PROTECTED
BY LAWS MADE BY THOSE
WHO ARE FREELY ELECTED.

FREEDOM IS FRAGILE,
SO TREASURE IT WELL!
DO NOT ABUSE FREEDOM
IS THE PEAL OF THE BELL!

FOR FREEDOM'S STRENGTH
TO GROW AND ENDURE,
COMBAT SINISTER FORCES
AND EVIL'S ALLURE.

ETERNAL VIGILANCE
WILL NOT BE IN VAIN
TO PREVENT THE LOSS
OF FREEDOM'S GAIN.

MAINTAIN YOUR FREEDOM
AS JUST RECOMPENSE.
YET, DO NOT ENJOY IT
AT OTHERS' EXPENSE!

FREE ALL MANKIND
OF CONTEMPT AND
DISDAIN!
SHATTER ALL SHACKLES!
BREAK SLAVERY'S CHAIN!

NO ONE IS ASSURED
OF FREEDOM'S GUARANTEE,
AND NO ONE IS SAFE
UNTIL ALL ARE SET FREE!

BE A GUARDIAN OF FREEDOM,
BE ALERT AND STAND FAST!
ALL MANKIND YEARNS
FOR FREEDOM AT LAST!

LET CENTURIES MORE
THE FREEDOM BELL RING!
OF BLESSED FREEDOM
LET FREE PEOPLE SING!

JOIN IN THE CHORUS,
ADD FREELY YOUR VOICES,
AS IN PRAISE OF FREEDOM
ALL MANKIND REJOICES:

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Freedom! Freedom! Freedom!
Oh glorious, GLORIOUS Freedom!

Written by Gerhard A. First

10/1000

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