

A COLLECTION OF 10 POEMS ON NEGLECTED
TROPICAL DISEASES

FROM
SUFFERING
TO HOPE



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INTRODUCTION

This is a collection of ten powerful poems that explore the fight against neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). The first three poems are about suffering and the remaining seven brings hope.

Each poem brings a unique perspective to the struggle against NTDs and the hope and resilience of those affected by these diseases. Through vivid imagery and powerful language, the poems highlight the challenges of living with NTDs, the importance of taking action to prevent and treat them, and the progress that has been made in the fight against these diseases.

This collection is a call to action for individuals, communities, and governments to work together to break the chains of neglect and build a healthier, more equitable world.



PART 1: SUFFERING



1. THE PLIGHT OF NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

In the shadows of poverty and neglect,
Lies a tragedy few seem to detect,
Neglected tropical diseases, a silent curse,
Destroying lives, making health worse

Leprosy, the first among the list,
A disease of stigma, hard to resist,
Skin lesions, numbness, and sores,
Leads to disabilities, a life with closed doors.

River blindness, an insect-borne plight,
Blinds the eyes, leaving them without sight,
Affects the young, before they grow old,
Depriving them of dreams, leaving hearts cold.

Chagas disease, a silent killer,
From a bug bite, it can trigger,
Heart and stomach problems, it brings,
Unseen, unheard, like a thief in the night, it springs.

Sleeping sickness, caused by tsetse fly,
Affects the brain, leaves the body high and dry,
Fever, headaches, confusion, and more,
Leaves the person helpless, unable to explore.

Schistosomiasis, a disease of waters,
Affects those who bathe in lakes, streams, and rivers,
Parasites enter through the skin,
Damage organs, making life thin.

Hookworms, a soil-transmitted parasite,
Enter through bare feet, cause appetite,
Anemia, malnutrition, it brings,
Leaves the person weak, like a bird without wings.

Trachoma, an eye disease of the poor,
Causes blindness, makes life obscure,
Affects women and children more,
Makes life tough, making them sore.

Dengue fever, a mosquito-borne illness,
Brings high fever, muscle pain, and distress,
Dengue hemorrhagic fever, a severe form,
Life-threatening, it can be the norm.

Rabies, a disease of the animals,
Transferred to humans, it's irrational,
Affects the brain, makes one go insane,
Leaves the person dead, without any gain.

These are the diseases of the forgotten,
The poor and the voiceless, the downtrodden,
The world needs to wake up and act,
Neglected tropical diseases, we need to tact.

We need to fight for those who suffer,
Bring health and hope, make life better,
Let's join hands and spread awareness,
Bring change, give life, and bring happiness.

For in the end, we are all one,
And their suffering is ours, undone,
So let's rise up and bring healing,
To these neglected scars, start revealing



2. THE LOST SIGHT

Once he had the gift of sight,
But now it's all engulfed in night.
The world he knew, he can't perceive,
For river blindness caused him to grieve.

It crept upon him slowly, so sly,
And stole his vision, making him cry.
He couldn't believe what had occurred,
And felt his life was now obscured.

The world was now a different place,
With darkness shrouding every space.
The colors he once saw so bright,
Were now lost forever in his sight.

He couldn't see the faces of his friends,
Or the beauty that nature lends.
The sunsets he once marveled at,
Were now but memories left flat.

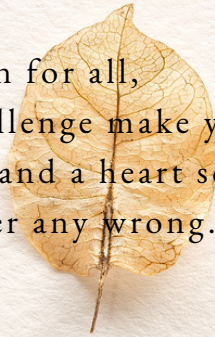
But even in this new reality,
He refused to bow down to his adversity.
He found new ways to live his life,
And not let the blindness cause him strife.

He learned to see with other senses,
And adapted to the new defences.
His ears were sharp and his hands so strong,
And he carried on, never doing wrong.

He learned to navigate the world anew,
And never lost his spirit, it's true.
He knew the road ahead would be tough,
But he remained resilient and never rough.

River blindness might have taken his sight,
But it never dimmed his inner light.
He lived each day with joy and grace,
And proved to the world his strength and face.

So let this be a lesson for all,
To never let any challenge make you fall.
With determination and a heart so strong,
You can triumph over any wrong.



3. THE LOST CHILDREN

In the depths of sorrow and despair,
A mother weeps for her son no longer there.
Her firstborn child, taken too soon,
A victim of rabies, an illness immune.

She remembers the days of laughter and play,
When he was full of life, vibrant and cool.
But now he's gone, taken by a disease,
Leaving behind nothing but memories.

She tries to find solace in the thought,
That her son is now in a better spot.
But the pain and grief are too much to bear,
As she looks at his empty bed, stripped bare.

She knows she's not alone in her plight,
That other parents have lost their children to the
night.

Neglected tropical diseases, they call them,
Diseases that prey on the poor, the forgotten.

These diseases lurk in the shadows,
Silent killers, that nobody knows.
They rob children of their childhood dreams,
And shatter parents' hopes and schemes.

But there is hope, there is a way,
To stop these diseases from having their say.
Through education, vaccination, and care,
We can prevent these diseases, and show we care.

So let us not forget those who've gone before,
Let their memories live on forevermore.
And let us work together, hand in hand,
To ensure that no child in our land.

Has to suffer the pain and loss of a disease,
That could have been prevented with ease.
Let us honor their memory with action and love,
And make the world a better place for all to move





PART 2: HOPE



4. NEGLIGENCE AWAY

Neglected no more,
these tropical diseases of yore,
long overlooked and left to grow,
now finally receive the attention they're due.

From sleeping sickness to elephantiasis,
these ailments have caused too much affliction,
with people suffering in silence,
neglected by the medical profession.

But now the world is waking up,
to the plight of those who suffer,
with resources being poured in,
and treatments developed like never before.

No longer shall they be forgotten,
nor their cries for help unheard,
for we are here to lift them up,
and give them hope for a better world.

Let us move the negligence away,
and bring these diseases to the light of day,
for only then can we hope to cure,
and ensure that no one suffers anymore.

5. THERE IS A PLAN

In the heart of Africa, where the sun beats down,
There are children who suffer, with their health run
down,
Intestinal worms have made their home,
And in their tiny bodies, they freely roam.

But hope is not lost, for there is a plan,
To rid these children of the worms that blight their
land,
A mass drug administration, a simple cure,
To ensure that these children will be healthy once
more.

The medicines are distributed far and wide,
To every child in need, with no one left aside,
Community health workers take on the task,
Of delivering the drugs, no questions asked.

The children line up, with hope in their eyes,
For they know the cure is at hand, no need to
disguise,
The tablets go down, with a sip of water,
And in just a few hours, the worms will falter.

The drugs do their job, and the worms they die,
The children feel better, and they let out a sigh,
Of relief and of joy, for their health is restored,
And they can go back to being the kids they adored.

But the work is not done, for there is still more to do,
To ensure that the worms don't come back anew,
Education is key, to teach good hygiene,
And to keep the worms at bay, as much as we've seen.

The mass drug administration, a powerful tool,
To rid the world of worms, and make children cool,
For health is a right, that every child should have,
And with this intervention, we can help them all
pave.

The fight is not over, and there's still work to be
done,
To ensure that the worms don't have a chance to run,
But with the mass drug administration, we're on our
way,
To a world without worms, and a brighter future
every day.



6. THE POWER OF THE YOUTH TO FIGHT NTDS

Youth are the future, the hope of tomorrow,
The ones who will fight, against the Neglected
Tropical Diseases' sorrow,
With their passion and drive, they'll take up the
fight,
And ensure that these diseases are banished from
sight.

They'll raise awareness, and spread the word,
About these diseases that are often absurd,
And show the world the toll they take,
On those who suffer, and the lives they break.

They'll challenge the status quo, and break down
barriers,
And demand the resources needed, with voices that
carry,
They'll advocate for change, and demand action be
taken,
To ensure that these diseases are finally forsaken.

They'll work together, and stand as one,
To make sure that these diseases are finally done,
And no longer will children suffer,
Or be forced to endure pain, as if life were rougher.

They'll engage their communities, and empower the poor,
And ensure that the neglected have a voice that roars,
They'll work with governments, and NGOs alike,
To make sure that these diseases are finally struck.

So let us not underestimate, the power of youth,
To fight these diseases, and tell the truth,
For they are the ones who hold the key,
To a world without NTDs, where everyone can be free.

Let us support them, and give them the tools,
To fight these diseases, and break the rules,
And let us join them, in this noble cause,
For together we can win, and find a way to applause.



7. A CALL TO ACTION

A call to action, hear it now,
To fight neglected tropical diseases, let us vow,
To stand up, united, against this foe,
And never stop until our mission's aglow.

For far too long, these diseases have gone
unnoticed,
Their impact on lives, unseen and unspoken,
But now we raise our voices, we take a stand,
For the sake of those who suffer, for their lives,
we demand.

Our call to action is a plea for help,
To join the fight, to join in and yelp,
To raise awareness, to spread the word,
To take action, and to make it heard.

For every child who struggles to survive,
For every parent who watches their child thrive,
For every person who deserves a chance,
To live their life with joy and not just survive by
chance

We need your help, we need your voice,
To fight these diseases, to make a choice,
To stand up and be counted, to make a stand,
To fight for those in need, to give them a hand.

So hear our call, and join the fight,
For a world where NTDs no longer blight,
For a world where hope and health are true,
Let us stand together, and make it anew.




8. WE ARE WITH YOU

Dear friend, we know the pain you feel,
Neglected tropical diseases, a burden so real,
But do not despair, do not lose heart,
For hope still shines, though it may seem far
apart.

You are not alone, in this fight,
Many hearts and hands, stand by your side,
We will walk with you, through the dark and the
light,
Until you emerge, healthy and bright.

Though the road may be long, and the path
unclear,
We will not falter, we will be here,
To lend a hand, to share a smile,
To walk with you, every single mile.



For you are not just a number or a case,
But a life, a soul, with so much grace,
And we will do all we can, to ensure,
That your life is full, and your health is pure.

So do not give up, do not lose faith,
For hope still burns, a flicker in the dark,
And we will stand with you, every step of the way,
Until you reach the end, and emerge in a new day.

For hope will triumph, in the end,
And we will celebrate, our hard-earned win,
A world where NTDs no longer reign,
Where health and hope, will always remain.

So hold on tight, to hope and to light,
For we are here, with you in this fight,
And together, we will overcome,
And emerge victorious, when all is said and done.

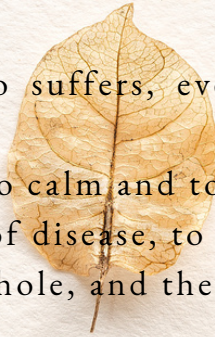


9. A HEALING HAND

A healing hand, a touch so pure,
To cure neglected tropical diseases, the ultimate
cure,
A hand that brings health and hope to all,
To lift the burden of disease, to make it fall.

From the heart of the jungle to the edge of the
sea,
This hand reaches out, with love and with glee,
To heal the sick, to soothe the pain,
To break the chains of disease, to make it wane.

For every child who suffers, every parent who
weeps,
This hand is there, to calm and to keep,
To ease the burden of disease, to bring relief,
To make the body whole, and the spirit brief.



With knowledge and skill, this hand works its
magic,
With care and compassion, it soothes the tragic,
From the smallest infection, to the deadliest of
all,
This hand is there, to heal and to recall.

For every life saved, for every family restored,
This hand rejoices, with joy and with reward,
For it knows the power, the healing grace,
To restore the body, and the soul's embrace.

And as this hand moves, across the land and the sea,
It brings hope and healing, to all who need,
To break the chains of disease, to make it flee,
To bring health and hope, to all who heed.

So let us join, this healing hand,
To fight NTDs, to take a stand,
To make the world, a healthier place,
Where health and hope, forever grace.



10. ELIMINATION

In a world that's ever-changing,
With challenges that are so daunting,
Neglected tropical diseases once held sway,
But we'll eliminate them, come what may.

We'll fight them with vaccines, and drugs,
And bring treatment to those living in huts.
We'll train health workers, and volunteers too,
And together we'll make our efforts come true.

We'll map out the areas, where they still reside,
And work hard to ensure, they're pushed aside.
We'll educate communities, about prevention
too,
And make sure they understand, what they can
do.

We'll work with governments, and NGOs,
And bring together, a united force that grows.
We'll reach the hard-to-reach, and those in need,
And make sure no one is left behind, or left to
bleed.

We'll continue to innovate, and find new ways,
To fight these diseases, and bring brighter days.
We'll invest in research, and development too,
And make sure the progress we've made, is always
new.

We'll never give up, or lose our way,
For we know that eliminating these diseases, will
someday pay.

We'll create a world, where health is a right,
And where everyone, can see the light.

So let's join hands, and make a stand,
And work together, to make our plans grand.
We'll eliminate these diseases, one by one,
And make sure that, health for all is won.



CONCLUSION

As we conclude this collection of poems, we are reminded that the fight against neglected tropical diseases is far from over. But with continued dedication and collaboration, we can create a future where these diseases no longer exist, and where every individual has access to the healthcare they need to thrive.

Let us take inspiration from these poems, and continue our efforts to eliminate neglected tropical diseases, and create a world where health for all is a reality.

