



INCONTRO

LA PROTEZIONE DEI MINORI NELLA CHIESA

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PREPARED TEXT

THE BRIDGE THAT MADE THE DIFFERENCE

Out came a boy,
Into a world that was new;
A challenge it was
Like for any newborn.
Who ever thought that this world
Brought him surprises and dangers unsought!

The quest for a good Catholic formation
Made him depart
From an environment – happy and whole;
A just cause it was,
And so with grief he bade farewell
To all that he knew:
Parents, siblings, love, care,
Protection and all.

As young as five,
To a world unknown,
Full of innocence and fears
He entered the halls that were new.
The home he missed,
Here he sought through friends,
And guardians to be his parents.
Fatal was this replacement
For their desires were strange
To him who was new.
His innocence stripped
Over and over again,
Left to fend for himself
Into this adult world,

He found no hope
And became a recluse.
It shred him apart,
As the years went by.
But none could he tell,
For fear of disgrace and shame.

From learning more of “Christian values”
He withdrew from the world
To the safety of being quiet, hidden within;
For secrecy was the only way out.

Many times did he question:
What was this world?
It made no sense nor gave him hope.
Once he contemplated over a bridge,
And asked himself,
“How would his way down change,
Change the order of things?”
Never was there an answer.

Who will ever know
What he went through?
Who will ever ask?
Who will ever take the responsibility
For this life that seemed lost?

Not a thing in his life
Was left untouched.
All of it was marred.
Was God ever there?
For He would be the only one
Who knows it all.

The bridge that he contemplated
Did show him a way,
a way that was different
That came to fruition, when
He strangely heard in his noisy, troubled heart
A voice that called for a change to be brought.
A journey he began

To fulfill what the voice said.
A journey of forgiveness,
A journey of reconciliation
A journey that accepted the life that was
A life full of hurt, sorrow and despair.

That new way down the bridge
Was long and difficult.
It touched his very essence of life.
But, a way there was, a different one;
A way that heals, a healing that takes time.
It softened his hardened heart
And transformed the life he lived.
It broke the shell he lived in, to walk free
And tell the world, "There is a way."
That's his story.

But now, who will take the responsibility
Of lives that are broken?
There is a way!
There is a chance!
There is hope!
There is life!
Bring back what is lost!
Show that you care!
For all that you do
Will save the many silent cries
That wait for a saving day.