



PROJECT MUSE®

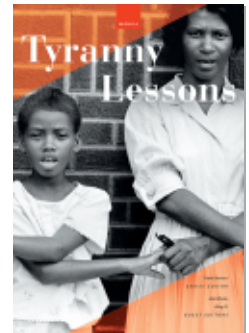
Cry Out in Sorrow

Lin Zi, Ming Di, Frank Stewart

Manoa, Volume 32, Number 1, 2020, p. 81 (Article)

Published by University of Hawai'i Press

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1353/man.2020.0028>



➔ *For additional information about this article*

<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/761383>

Cry Out in Sorrow

Translators' Note: This poem was written for Li Wenliang (1986–2020), the Wuhan doctor who alerted his colleagues about the coronavirus in December 2019, and died of the disease in February 2020. When punished by the police for “spreading rumors,” he said, “A healthy society should allow more than one voice.” The poem calls for public mourning as a protest against censorship.

Cry out loudly
 I implore everyone:
 may his bones be sheltered in his own comforting soul
 may this spring bring back all springs, adorning his way
 may evil abandon evil and plead for mercy for him
 may all the windows be thrown open
 and scatter their light for him
 may his parents hold him in their arms again
 may all the children wave high his funeral banners
 may the world stop—
 Today, whoever is alive should be his avenger
 the hearts of humanity are breaking
 I implore everyone
 hang thunder and lightning in the sky for him
 split open the pelvis of the earth for his sake
 may the abyss yawn ever deeper
 may the blazing fire swallow his ashes

Translation from Chinese by Ming Di and Frank Stewart