

from *Heart Scenes: Emotional Landscapes via Art, Poetry, & Prose*

## **ALTERED AMBITIONS:**

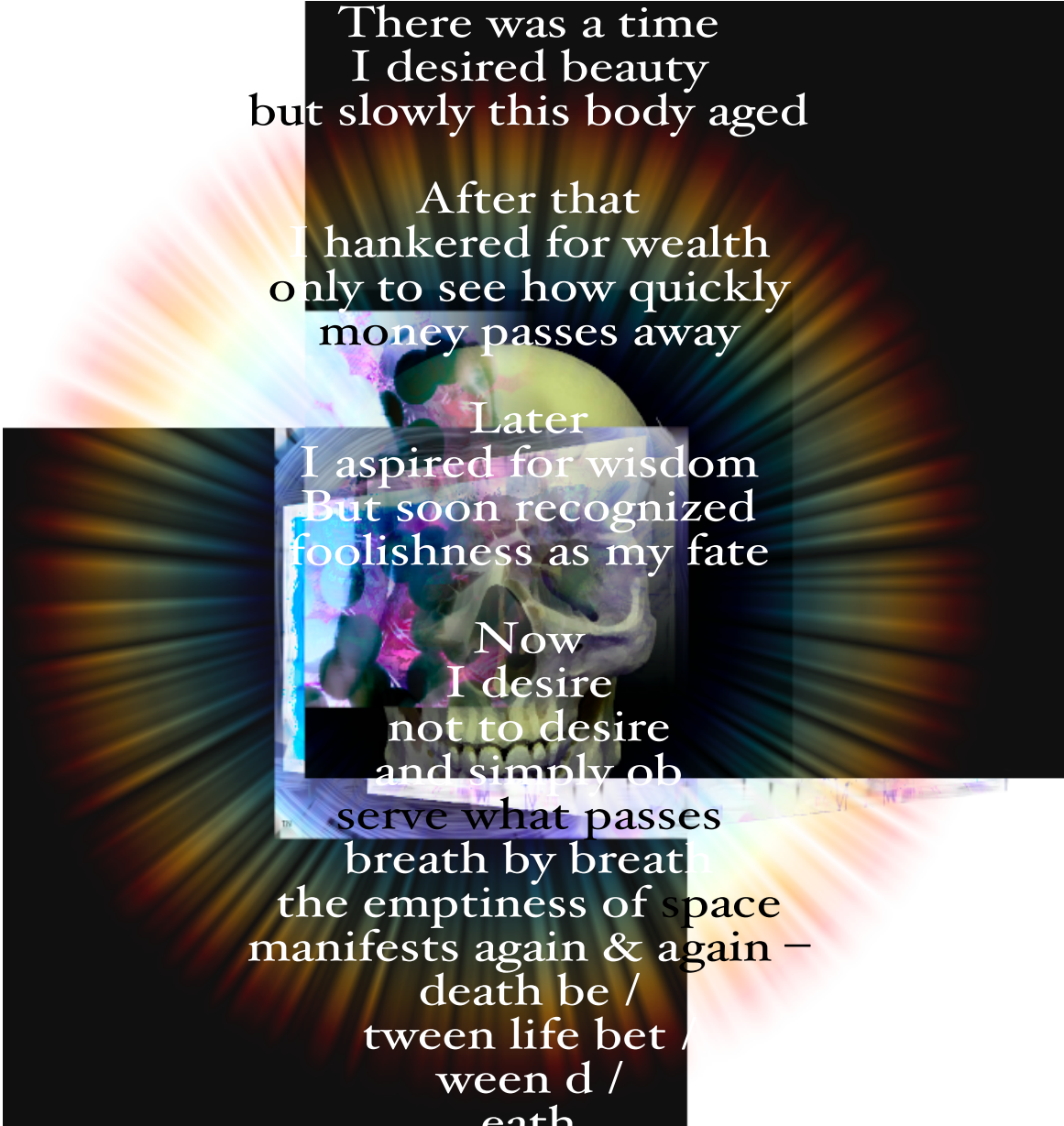
### **A Chronicle of Changing Aspirations**

*Miok:* What's wrong with desire?

*Chris:* Yeah – what's the implication here? Are we supposed to renounce all desire?

*Tim:* How should I know? I only wrote the poem – that doesn't mean that it understand it!

*Cantara:* Perhaps we should remember not all desires are equal. Some are mere mindless hankerings. Others arise from a deeper source promoting well-being.



There was a time  
I desired beauty  
but slowly this body aged

After that  
I hankered for wealth  
only to see how quickly  
money passes away

Later  
I aspired for wisdom  
But soon recognized  
foolishness as my fate

Now  
I desire  
not to desire  
and simply ob-  
serve what passes  
breath by breath  
the emptiness of space  
manifests again & again –  
death be /  
tween life bet /  
ween d /  
eath

*Chris:* The problem is most men have two "brains": one in their heads and another between their legs.

*Miok:* Only two? Don't we have multiple brains? I often hear voices from my stomach and throat. My feet also frequently speak to me.

*Cantara:* Indeed. Also, there is an intelligence outside of our bodies. Haven't you ever spoken with trees or felt the energy of this whole planet?

*Chris:* (Shaking his head) Sorry - I'm not that delusional.

**- T Newfields**

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