

# Time Is An Ocean

Paul Simon

I speak to you in Jesus' name  
As Jesus speaks through me  
The evil we do can't be blamed  
Upon our destiny  
I have walked through the  
Valley of death-row to the shore  
I have stumbled through silvery water  
To my Savior, my Salvador  
It took me four years to learn  
I was in prison, not in church  
And two more to begin  
The book of my soul's search  
Time is an ocean of endless tears  
A wild boy from the streets of El Barrio  
The orphan from the hills of Mayag ez  
And when I wrote my story  
The words flew from the page  
And my soul in solitary  
Escaped its iron cage  
Time is an ocean of endless tears  
Mama, I got your letter today  
The next time that you write  
I'll be transferred far away  
I'm leaving Greenhaven's  
Towers of stone  
Where the Latin population  
Will soon be minus one  
Time is an ocean of endless tears  
I know how hard it's been  
For you these many years  
You say the Aguinaldo  
Makes you dream of home  
Where once we strolled  
The beach at El Malecon  
Go back, don't you worry  
I am your grown up son  
The politics of prison  
Are a mirror of the street  
The poor endure oppression

The police control the state  
Correctional of facility  
That's what they call this place  
But look around and you will see  
The politics of race  
A forest and a prison  
Where the snow and guards are white  
If you want to keep your sanity  
You'll teach yourself to write  
You were a child of sixteen  
With a twelve year old mind  
You came here numb and battered  
By the streets I left behind  
I'll take the evil in me  
And turn it into good  
Though all your institutions  
Never thought I could  
So, now I'll turn to say goodbye  
I'll keep your image in my eye  
I turn around to say goodbye  
I'll keep your image with me till the day I die  
Time is an ocean of endless tears

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