

BIRTH LEGACIES

When mum was born
the dimensions of our galaxy were unknown
& quantum mechanics was shrouded in mystery

Freud was attempting to model the psyche
while trench warfare redefined atrocity

As Bolsheviks **toppled imperial Russia**
America beefed up its military

When her mum was born
the interior of the atom was unknown
& radioactivity was a fresh discovery

In my grandmother's birth year
our planet's age had finally been dated
but air flight was only a dream

Brahms was writing a beautiful clarinet quintet
while Buffalo Bill's Wild West Tour was the rage

As Sioux indians were slaughtered by whites
countless mums whispered to their babes
"Hush now – everything is gon'na be all right"

Linda : The fact that we enter this world without any knowledge of it is a blessing.

Lex : How so?

Linda : Too much knowledge promotes stagnation. I feel there's a freshness in the innocence of youth.

Lis : (chuckling) Really? Nothing about youth is innocent. Young people have the same desires as adults, just fewer resources to enact them.

Linda : I hear you, but we disagree. We enter this world for a reason and are part of an unfolding story. Each person should study the record of their birth year and reflect on how humanity needs to change.

- T Newfields

Beg. : 1991 Shizuoka Fin. : 2016 Xīn Táiběi

