



IN HIROSHIMA

How should we feel in a place
that became the world's first atomic **grave?**

How should we regard the leaves of **trees**
whose trunks are scarred by nuclear **debris?**

How should we view blades of **grass**
rising boldly above shattered **glass?**

Representing both hopes and **fears**
what does Hiroshima say
to those **who draw** near?

Treasure life and work for **peace?**
Buy trinkets and enjoy the breeze?
Take photos and garner **souvenirs?**
Notice each moment before it **disappears?**

Explore contradictions:
Aren't they always **here?**

Frida : No discourse seems to fit for Hiroshima. No explication seems to hold.

Dmiritri : Let's pray that Hiroshima and Nagasaki will be our last acts of nuclear madness.

Ying : (laughing) I doubt that humans are that wise. We still have much to learn about resolving conflicts without violence.

Satoru : (scratching his chin) I choose to be optimistic. When pressed against the walls of necessity, it's surprising what we can learn.

- **T Newfields**

Beg.: 1996 Hiroshima / Fin.: 2023 Yokohama

