

POEM

Excerpts from "My Promise" by Keoni LaGasa, Seattle

As a youth, you all have a purpose in life.
Every person's purpose, different than others.
Just like everyone's goals are different from others.

We are the Youth, We have to stand.
We have to take the torch.

We are strong, we are powerful.
We can overcome anything together.
When the gailing winds come,
we can stand together like a brick wall.
Can you see that we are strong?
Can you see that when we are together,
we are like a Great Ship
sailing the seas for everyone to see!
That we are great as the Sea!
A vast ocean of youth powerful as the wave.

We will become known as the Great White Dove of the SGI,
spreading peace throughout the world.
We will be the leaders taking the steps of our parents.

This is our Dawning.
You will see.
This is our time to awaken.

Awaken to the dream.
Awaken to the path.
Awaken everyone to world peace.

I hope my heart has touched yours
and I hope this poem will open your heart
to the nature that we are taught to have.
Our Buddha Nature.
Awaken to the land around us.
Our Buddha Land.
It is our time.