

## Concerning Earth

By Henry Pomerance, inspired by Allen Ginsberg's "America"

Yes, it's coming through.  
Wait, yes, okay. Alright, I got it.  
I only have sixteen new messages,  
That might be a record.  
Anyhow, I know you get tons of mail, so I'll try to keep it short.

Dear Earth,  
I've been sitting on my wooden rocking chair,  
As any good person would.  
I distance myself from everything outside my backyard.  
That way, I don't have to use my gun too often.  
Earth, my crops are failing.  
They're failing and they're not getting better.  
Earth, why do you allow this to happen?  
Mother Nature never let me down.  
Earth, please let me have my gun back.  
I promise I'll be safer.

Dear Earth,  
You keep me constrained on this forsaken world.  
You are nothing compared to the cosmos.  
You think you have power but you don't.  
Let me blast off your imperfect face,  
Smearred with black soot.

Dear Earth  
I'm sick!  
I'm sick I'm sick I'm sick.  
I can't take this anymore.  
Earth, are you a humanitarian?  
My child needs your care.  
Earth you gave Malaria and iPad when it was six.  
It's spoiled and it's spoiling my blood.

Dear Earth,  
I admire you.  
You stayed steady when they attempted a  
Coup d'etat via the Industrial Revolution.  
Let them be angry and wild.  
Let them blow themselves up with their bombs and their tribalism.  
You and me, we  
Know how to exist in harmony.

Dear Earth,  
Could you please change my horoscope?  
I'm scheduled for bad luck in two months three days.  
I read it online.

Dear Earth,  
I've been sending you newsletters for some time now,  
Have you been receiving them?  
Well if you haven't, I'd like to introduce you to the world of  
Christianity.  
All evidence points towards the Holy Trinity,  
And we firmly believe you would be a great member of our growing community.  
If I may, those Eastern Religions are full of nasty heathens.  
Between us, we might give them another chance.  
Boy do they need saving!

Dear Earth,  
When will there be a unified religion?  
It's very stressful choosing which god to sing to.  
Earth, did you know people fight over someone they can't see?  
All the religions say not to kill.  
Earth, please explain why people kill in the name of not killing.  
It makes no sense.  
They make no sense.  
You make no sense.

Dear Earth,  
Please help.  
Sally's kids are sick.  
Margaret is in the hospital.  
My shower is unusable.  
I can light my water on fire.  
Earth, that's not supposed to happen.  
I hate to bother you, but this is really urgent.  
We're unwilling victims of corporate greed.  
Please Earth,  
Flint, Michigan needs you.

Dear Earth,  
Your household is obviously a mess.  
Your oldest child, America, has been caught smoking oil and drinking water.  
Do you have any idea what the implications are for your family resources?  
Furthermore, as you are well aware, the actions of older siblings have  
Profound impacts on younger siblings.  
India and Bangladesh will certainly follow in their older sibling's footsteps.  
Earth, you don't want to raise a wasteful, irresponsible family.  
Get America under control.  
This is not just your problem.  
Many of the other older, more developed ones are engaging in similar risky acts.  
But if this continues to be an issue, America might  
Drop out.