

# DETROIT NATIVE SUN

UNITING &amp; ENLIGHTENING THE COMMUNITY

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## In Dependence

By Evelyn M. Bingham  
SUN COLUMNIST & POET



When you hear the word independent, what thoughts come to mind? Do you consider yourself an independent person? A dictionary definition of *Dependence*, is as follows – The condition or fact of being *dependent*, a being contingent

upon or influenced, controlled, or determined by something else, a reliance (on another) for support or aid, subordination, -- reliance, trust.

*Independence*, is defined as the state or quality of being independent; freedom from the control, influence, or determination of another or others or an income sufficient for a livelihood: a person who is independent in thinking, action etc., relying on one's own abilities, judgment etc., self confident, self reliant.

In comparing the two, it appears to me that the vast majority of us in the popularity, are a combination of both dependent and independent. It brought to mind, my observance of our one year old great grand-

daughter, who has been extremely observant of her surroundings and of people, very recently began walking . As she gingerly stepped around our backyard looking and observing and touching grass, plants etc., she was showing her newfound confidence in herself and her self reliance. She was looking around seriously at her surroundings, as if having studied and planned for this day of independent exploration for quite some time, *without falling down!*

I believe, we all exhibit these mutual traits of independence and dependence. Life is a balance, whereby we learn how to navigate the waters we are wading or swimming through at the time.

We learn through living, the truth is, *no man is an island unto himself*, for it takes the love and cooperation of interested others to assist each of us to our best and most complete selves! We can also look at it as meaning each person has the *inner dependence*, within themselves, and their ability or lack of will thereof, to cultivate a positive mindset to be a self starter and an aggressive and positive self motivator. It is imperative that we teach our children to think and to reason from their beginning!

Fortunately for us all, there is but ONE man, I am aware of, who thinks He is the best, smartest, and richest, and, He did it on his own! Only time, and Karma, will tell!

## Religion Defined

By Evangelist Barbara Colbert  
SUN COLUMNIST



Someone asked the question, "Why does it seem that the church today is not taken as seriously as it used to be?" Someone else said, "Maybe it's "organized religion" that's made the church too binding, too ritualistic, and unexciting." I say, on the contrary, the church today has become too promising, too permissive, and too undefined, birthing a myriad of doctrines, and people endlessly seeking to redefine religion to what they want it to be, ignoring what the Lord has already set in place since the beginning of creation.

The plight of the church today is its failure to effectively challenge the increasing deprivation of the mind and soul of mankind. While many stray to believe in various man-made doctrines, living for oneself, and finding one's purpose in oneself, notice the operative word is "one". To seek within oneself, and with just the right formula, one will find inner peace, sanctity, and can even will into existence, personal prosperity. Yet, one only has to examine history, or even the turbulent state of the world today to see that it is evident, there is no peace that can be found within oneself. Isolating oneself from all other humanity, anesthetizing oneself with potions and other mind-altering drugs, or entrenching oneself in some form of self-induced transcendental meditation or mental telepathy, none of these things have brought the human soul everlasting peace, or a surety of life eternal. There's truth to a song written years ago that said, "One is the loneliest number that you'll ever know . . ."

Also, it is true that the church today is not taken seriously because religion, organized or otherwise, has run many away, and while people have run or turned their backs on the church, the church itself has not dealt seriously with the reasons why. Knowing that we live in a world that zealously promotes self-gratification, and while this is prevalent today more than ever, it is not a new dilemma. Man, from the Garden of Eden, sought his own way, violating the laws of the Creator and ultimately the creation. Still, the church has not responded well, and as the world has gone, so has, in many ways, the church. While the "I, I, I" syndrome prevails and permeates society, it has not only trickled into the church, the church has yielded and submitted to it, mimicking the world, and sleeping with the enemy. End result; disgruntled potential Believers; a plethora of man made religions and cults rooted in ungodly doctrines; confusion; mayhem; damnation.

Redemption starts in the heart and soul of the lost man. If one comes to Christ only to discover He's too binding, too restrictive, he'll soon be lost again. If one comes to Christ only to find He's too permissive, too compromising, he'll soon be lost again. Again, notice the operative word, "one". This is the only time "one" is essential. It is the individual man that comes to Christ alone, broken and ready for whatever the Lord can give. This is what is sadly and often missing in the church today and the world today - the knowledge and understanding that "religion" is the result of something far greater - and that is Salvation. If one truly knows the meaning of salvation, if one truly recognizes the state of brokenness he was once in - but for God, then one will take the church "seriously" and "organized religion" will actually be religion that has "organized". Putting into place, man's heart to God's will. Everything decent and in order and to the glory of God.

## The glass eye

By Evelyn M. Bingham

I know a man who boasts of having a glass eye  
He prides himself on being difficult, being the most unbending, the most intelligent one  
What he fails to realize, but plainly shows  
Is that he is one of Gods *most needy* sons!

He is astute at mental posturing  
Thrives on besting his opponents in academic games of chess  
But inside, he is silently screaming  
Look at me! Help me somebody! For my personal life is a pitiful mess!

I'm afraid to let your gaze penetrate too deeply  
So I look at you through, and *let you see only my glass eye*  
That way, I can control, what you *really* know about me  
That I am weak, and loveless, and frightened that my spirit will die.

What I seek, is close and personal interaction  
With friends and family, whose loyalties will stay  
Show me, teach me a better way, Lord  
For too long now, my old way has not been the best way.

When I think of the years I've wasted, and needed love and friendship  
I look back on the illusion of my callous, egotistical life, with a sigh  
But now, I know that with God as my mentor  
He'll teach me, to use my *inner* and not my *indifferent, glass eye!*  
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## Letter to the Black man©

By Darryl Cheatham  
SPECIAL TO THE SUN

I write this letter to motivate.  
I write this letter to inspire.  
I write this letter to spread love.  
I write this letter to spark prosperity.

BLACK MAN

Wisdom has been bestowed upon me through my family tree, through time.  
Absorbed through my ears, eyes, mind and soul greatness has been foretold.  
Through myth and folklore, we must never fight over shade or let the stereotypes play and charades parade reclaiming naming ceasing all defaming friend or foe.

Look into my eyes and you will know our name, our love, our pain.  
It's no game or adventure for the lighthearted raising sons and daughters.  
We will never falter. Our nostalgia riddled with random pain like fibromyalgia.  
The road is long nasty to exquisite patience and stamina is a prerequisite standing in this blood line with the earth on your shoulders.

The summers got hotter. Spring and Fall got shorter. Winters got colder.  
We lost a lot of generals and soldiers. This ain't the time to be shook nor scared.  
Our ancestors prepaid in order for us to be prepared.

Large sums of us are lost in the rough seas of the industry to the penitentiary.  
If you make it a point to outreach, I teach be received with your hands cupped and they shall runneth over.

We are the sum total of each other. I will. You will. We will always be tested.  
We must stay forever invested. Blood and sweat equity like the mighty oak tree  
We are deep rooted. Forever ready with eager minds strong hearts and steady hands forging foundations for the future.

## Embracing the Goddess Within:

### The transformational power of relationships

By Addonna AKA Goddess Godis  
SUN COLUMNIST



If you lived on an island by yourself, you would not be able to truly see, know or experience yourself. It is through your interaction and relationship with others

that that you come into the knowledge and awareness of self.

Relationships are a powerful tool for inner growth and transformation. They allow you to see and experience the beauty as well as the shadows within yourself - the places where you are not loving, as well as the places where you are weak and need to be strengthened.

Your Relationships are your mirrors. You draw to you in your relationships people who will reflect back to you, the qualities and the attitudes you love, as well as the attitudes and qualities that you need to look and change within yourself.

What you strongly and emotionally dislike or react to in others is a reflection of something you need to look at and change within yourself.

As you change what you see and what you experience in your relationships changes as well as what you see and experience within yourself.

Rise goddess rise! Your love and your light is needed.

GODIS is a spiritual artist who uses her gifts as a spiritual photographer, garment designer, writer, speaker and author of the Book of Wisdom. A Goddess is woman who knows she is a daughter of God. To contact GODIS, e-mail [GODESSGODIS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GODESSGODIS@GMAIL.COM)

