



1996

fountain in city square

Mike Farr

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A poem by **Mike Farr**

fountain in city square

and

water flows
 from Christ's fingertips
 (like blood)
 into the
 fountain
 of which
 he stands
 king

and

people,
 those
 city inner
 and those
 who would
 come from
 city outer
 to buy,
 those
 all those

and

mothers and
 teens
 with cameras
 stand below
 the longing
 lonely one
 to

- a) photograph
- b) capture a
 portion of
 Him

and

the preacher
yells and
screams
and curses
the sinners
photographing

and

an angry
black man
damns the
white men
who
hate for no
reason
within
Christ's arms

and

his brother—
mother's son
shot
lying
in his pool
flat on
his back
into
heaven
staring
shot by
they

and

a boy
 upward
 looking
 tear filled
 who people
 step away from
 because
 he cries


and

a woman
 back
 turned
 who will
 turn
 tricks
 lost
 against
 the immense
 skyline
 outer square

but

all of
 them
 beneath
 the statue
 all of them
 invited
 and water
 Christ's water
 offered to

them all

 *If Mike Farr had named himself, he would now be going by Ed. He enjoys drinking Kool-aid, playing loud music, and reading Orson Pratt. You can visit him at home at <http://www.byu.edu/~mfarr>.*