



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>.*