Poetry Series

The First Shrike - poems -

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The First Shrike(Still Waiting-Inpending)

If You Only Knew (seperates he from me) The Shrike appears in all of the Hyperion books and is something of an enigma; its true purpose isn't 'revealed' until the second book, but even then it is left a malleable purpose. In fact, this explanation is changed significantly in the latter two books (The Endymion duology) . The Shrike appears to act both autonomously and as a servant of some unknown force or entity, and in the first two Hyperion books, exists solely in the area around the Time Tombs on the planet Hyperion. In the latter two, it is effectively unfettered.

[edit] Physical Description

The Shrike stands roughly three meters in height and is described as being composed of razorwire, thorns, blades, and cutting edges, having fingers like scalpels and long, curved toeblades. It is basically a gigantic, bladed killing machine.

The Shrike weighs over a ton, though it is apparently capable of modifying its density as it sees fit.

Though metallic in appearance ('quicksilver over chrome'), the Shrike is also described as an 'organic' machine, humanoid in a general way, but with four 'oddly jointed' arms and intense, multi-faceted ruby eyes.

According to all descriptions, the Shrike is immensely horrifying to behold, extremely large, covered in blades and other cutting utensils, strangely quicksilver-shifty to look upon, and essentially something straight out of the most demented nightmares.

Upon suffering injury in combat, the Shrike is seen to lose a large amount of cabling likened to intestines, but in no way loses its abilities as a result.

[edit] Abilities

The Shrike communicates exclusively through pain and death. Throughout the books it is apparent that the Shrike can travel through time, appearing to move much faster than light and appearing to exist everywhere simultaneously if it desires. The Shrike was at one point assumed to be a prisoner of the Hyperion time tombs' anti-entropic fields (the 'time tides'), but as these began to degrade, the Shrike ranged farther and farther and eventually was observed on

other planets elsewhere in the galaxy.

Preferring to perform vivisections on its victims, the Shrike generally 'appears' near its victims and blinks about them before killing them in a flash of opening flesh and gore; sometimes it leaves its victims alive and transports them to an eternity of impalement upon an enormous artificial 'tree of thorns' in Hyperion's distant future. The tree of thorns is described as unimaginably large, alive with the agonized writhing of countless human victims of all ages and races.

The Shrike proves to be more than competent at hand-to-hand combat; it is itself a gigantic cutting utensil capable of manipulating time itself.

[edit] Origin

Surrounded in complete mystery, the object of fear, hatred, and even worship (by members of the Church of the Final Atonement, AKA the 'Shrike Cult'), the Shrike's origins are as uncertain as are its purpose and its abilities.

It is suggested in the books that the Shrike was actually a creation of a distant-future computer god, the Ultimate Intelligence, or UI, which was the end-result of countless years of TechnoCore research and effort. The UI, however, was not the only 'god' to be created - humanity and other conscious life eventually spawned its own god. The UI and the human god apparently strove with one another before the empathy part of the human god fled back in time.

The UI then created the Shrike and sent it back to create suffering by impaling people on its tree of thorns, in the hopes that when enough human suffering was harvested and sustained on the tree of thorns, the human god would emerge from hiding and respond to all the pain broadcast by the Shrike's tree.

The results of this are not discussed in-depth in the books.

In a somewhat different explanation offered in The Rise of Endymion, The Shrike has a connection to a TechnoCore sect called the Reapers, the original programs designed to provide evolutionary pressure on the hyperlife Core entities. The Reapers' motivations are, again, unclear - though in the latter two books, when the connection to the Reapers is made clear, the Shrike acts as a protector of Aenea against the Core assassins.

The actual controlling persona of the Shrike is, in fact, taken from that of its nemesis Fedmahn Kassad, the warrior who ultimately defeats it. It is unclear whether this applies to the legions of Shrikes existing by the time of Kassad's

	final	battle	, some	time	in t	the	distant	future,	or	solely	/ to	the	original	Shrike.
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Top that for imagination.....lol For imaniation is all it is

A Gentleman Once Said To Me

(And I Qoute)
I said our baby was a miracle
He stated
that all children
are miracles

Dumbfounded
I could only think to he
the greater the sacrifice
the greater the miracle

The First Shrike

A Posteriori

The text of life is all about learning from not only your life

Yet in the sharing richness in life all to have lived

Precious few do share with you

Some with wisdom come to the young

The teachers our parents but to name a few

So of you whom have such gifts as these

Unclutter there minds let them learn of such things

Of this I ask please just be kind

A Reflection On One So Wise 'Abraham Lincoln' For Whom The Bell Did Toll

'Every man is proud of what he does well; and no man is proud of what he does not do well. With the former, his heart is in his work; and he will do twice as much of it with less fatigue. The latter performs a little imperfectly, looks at it in disgust, turns from it, and imagines himself exceedingly tired. The little he has done, comes to nothing, for want of finishing.' Abraham Lincoln.

'When a man is led to believe that the pride in the work that he thought was done well, is undermined by himself, or others, for lack of instruction, where such insruction would not be rebuffed, then those whom could so insruct are just as responsable for the want of his when his heart is in his work and he seemed tireless in the pusuit of it's perfection, while knowing full well that nothing is perfect, when if fortunte enough, then his efforts could at the very least be percieved as his willingness to bring himself up from his past failers'.

For nothing eles from man or woman, Would or could any so ask.

James E McLain Jr.

A Second Chance From 'God'

The child I cried when from the womb you finally came

No misty sigh that came from you through the fluid of life she saw

In it's stead two cries I hear the first a painfull sigh I heard

For as that pain so did depart the second sound we did so hear

That gift of life that most hold dear

Trembling, Frailness small such 'GRACE'

Laid through mercy in your hands

The ultimate gift' GOD' gave to us

Such sweetness may all learn to know

For such a rairity some may have

Second chance we all can find through faith Wilt thou now

'Child' learn the song live to tell... grow up so strong.

With wings upon which you have to fly.

Thy glory to himself......Not I

The First Shrike

Alula

When she was born thus so adorned so tired she was gave birth to you different set of wings you now so have please learn to use them right

Am I

Sight blinded aura thought wait sit and drown

Do come forth such thoughts as walls give way to pave

Sight blinded for myself so think some one else not I am

The right still all have yet the exception is bad for the few

No thought did I give when on bended knee by force so was I

Missundersanding my whole life so thought they of me

For now that no longer am I whom so did wander percieved something better

My chances by me so thought by thee mean at the very least uncertainty

These solom words are spoken for you

Spoken such words humbly solem are they now

Bathed In Pillars Of Light

The light does bring forth life darkness is only temporary meant for us to rest our selves

Shrug off yesterdays difficulties for the morrows light brings us new hope in most difficult things

Yet the white rose fragrance indearing to all brings forth the sculpture of all pure things

I have at a young age long tranceded this mortal shell en cased it seems that I am in

For the purity of that which it is

When you gaze upon it's leaves indelibity blue printed to pass on to others which you will

Just but left to tend the garden by those whom know the secrets of that upon which we are all intitled to

Only for the lack of sight without eyes to hear with out ears to taste that which you smell and so those two scenses are intertwined to feel with out touching an impath

Pure and simple yet with dignity and as much We must treat all others as well

Beyond Apathetic

I fear not the dark it has always been there

I fear not the light for deleverence from here

I am though ashamed that of those whom so could turn just a few more from the dark

Into the light

That they know while building more jails shackling the lame

I speak
cannot for
the three
in five whom
care
but for the
two in five
whoms care
is only of that
for guilde

May that witch you have so inflicketed

be returned unto thee

Seventy times

Seventy

so

Proffered

Ву

The First Shrike

Bird Beast Or Shrike

The beast
I am not
yet persist
to slay
the
mighty
weapon of
Shrike
do I say

No harm as such will come your way

When the bird with wings if left unto me to fly from such pain and never remain

The First Shrike

Boldly Go Thy Hallowed Soul

Called forth prefere to stay safe hear t'is not as so thought dear

Claws sharpened razor edge teeth I wish not but are as well

Passive so I rather would be My flesh
My blood
has she so chose
it to be

Lightning cast forth heat no problem to me

Butterfly Dreams

The dreams of my heart my mind doth pass

In my dream of butterflys for they hug me without sound

Nothing stays with me to long In my dream of butterflys they lift me from this ground

But I have had from since as a child In my dream of butterflys they so still my mind

The deep solace of song
In my dream of butterflys they flutter for they are posied

In my dream of butterflys my daughter now is four In my dream of butterflys such delight to my eyes forever may roam

Let me find life and stay

In my dream of butterflys

Soft weaved wings they always have of witch we sing

With wings whoms tunes are played out and not forgotten

In my dream of butterflys linen in does my neice now lay

Like the rain of yesterday rainbow weaved it is thus so

In my dream of butterflys heavens light doth shine so true

In my dream of

butterflys
no cut
nor sting
for all
will sing
for the
beauty with
out flowers
no dream

Cameron

She speaks
of him
so thus
in fragile
hands
he trusts
his future
doth
he have
a say
this question
of you

I ask

Mighty soul that lays within small body a mind remains

In GODS hand

He must sustain the reason why all such do remain for such caring in loving hands

Tenderness is all that she retains

No profit from his

soul she asks

An open eye to all must pass

No reason given such love from her

For those whom care none would so ask

Hevely Where The crown

Cheek To Feet Stained By Ink Of Tear

Ink tears whom rest in black tears

Do so they course upon my face

Are mine of pain and sorrow of anger

I can't abate yet what of the hate of past and present

Those are the tear's that I so shed

Such with but a pen each tear with a meaning for each has its own feeling they all carry their own reason

Yet never do they reach the ground

A sob for the ink of my

tear

unnoticed unknown

Clearing Of The Mist

I waited I waited mayhap much to long fog haze in mind much to strong

Patince not cruelty all made so clear

So much time said lost

weep not a tear

no saint are we unless vain deludded

To think as once could

Powerfull bold

The lion gives way to the roar

CareFull must we when mind is clouded

To curb such strong words did not mean

to offend them

Conversation Among The Ruin's (Ruins Upon Ruins)

Through portico of my elegant house you stalk
With your wild furies, disturbing garlands of fruit
And the fabulous lutes and peacocks, rending the net
Of all decorum which holds the whirlwind back.
Now, rich order of walls is fallen; rooks croak
Above the appalling ruin; in bleak light
Of your stormy eye, magic takes flight
Like a daunted witch, quitting castle when real days break.

Fractured pillars frame prospects of rock;
While you stand heroic in coat and tie, I sit
Composed in Grecian tunic and psyche-knot,
Rooted to your black look, the play turned tragic:
Which such blight wrought on our bankrupt estate,
What ceremony of words can patch the havoc?

Sylvia Plath

Ruins Upon Ruins

That both of us

hath wrought
Into
our elegant house

I walked by invitation only

Whirlwinds wild fury

I say did we both

Nought did I

so solemnly speak nor wish to unfold to thee

That which all know have privy to see agreed

The birds
all there colors
fashion
still hold
yet he
himself
through peace
chose to
speak
unto me

I know
If a child
I was
and thou
bewitched
me so
you did
then there
the right you
gave to me

The right called love
I spent upon thee

For untruthful told words found in time

Would soon

have both us crying

Yet unto the two of us through light we still keep trying

A tragedy
is not that
of which I
seek
but
simple
understanding
made upon
peace

Estate bankrupt
as so
spoken by
you
can just as easily
be
respune again
diplomacy
in words
doth bring

Intertwined the two again saith you

Speak the truth pray tell to all It doth end well repose

Think good

James E McLain Jr.

The First Shrike

Darkness Falls

The night hath long been here yet near

To lie upon soft sheets
I fear

For vigilance must not be taken from me alas when forced to sleep

For as all true kings must learn to weep

For the hawks the eagles still will be

Some sit with wonder and watch me cry

My spirit returns ten times as strong to learn to sing and dance the song

For those who long to see me live

Humbly it is of your compassion I ask For true to spirit

all do so seek

Direction

Wisdom and Knowledge are useless with out Guileless guidance

For whom without guile will render so such

Dreams

where would any be the lofty the low without a dream to guide them so

Practical words from the high speak of reality take this position do so abide

For you waste your life trying to so obtain that witch I could not so have

Neither may you so attain

So all must give up there hopes there dreams

Or be crushed by another reality it seems

From Dust Can So Come

A new dawn of day better wish for the morrow

My Queen
I cannot find
a way to so sing

No more of such sorrow about yesterdays today

Regrets most to do I so have will she come on the morrow

Tackle box neatly laid with her finger tips afraid not like most

Lioness her self
if but that I
truley knew
then on the morrow
a sunflower again

I would see that as a mate I still miss Her

Highlander

There is fire in the seed let it not run rampant a simple beginning yet the world still is spinning

The First Shrike

Human Race (Only.0001% Of America Is This Way)

To him do
I speak
from where
he has
been
all souls
so crushed
with out

hope

We all live die there no respite for it is not for the money or that of spite

In America
we have
indoctronated
mortgage paid
we care
not about
you

Your Blood is as meaningingless as that of the stars

For if They cannot control such mass what meaning of life so

you think they would offer

Proffer

I Did Not Write This

People come into your life for a reason a season or a lifetime

When you know which one it is you will know what to do for that person

When someone is in your life for a reason it is usually to meet a need you have expressed

They have come to assist you through a difficulty to provide you with guidance and support to aid you physically emotionally or spiritually

They may seem like a godsend and they are

They are there for the reason you need them to be

Then without any wrongdoing on your part or at an inconvenient time this person will say or do something to bring the relationship to an end

Sometimes they die Sometimes they walk away Sometimes they act up and force you to take a stand

What we must realize is that our need has been met our desire fulfilled their work is done

The prayer you sent up has been answered now it is time to move on

Some people come into your life for a season because your turn has come to share grow or learn

They bring you an experience of peace or make you laugh

They may teach you something you have never done

They usually give you an unbelievable amount of joy

Believe it it is real But only for a season

Lifetime relationships teach you lifetime lessons things you must build upon in order to have a solid emotional foundation

Your job
is to accept
the lesson
love the person
and put what you
have learned to use
in all other
relationships
and areas
of your life

It is said that love is blind but friendship is clairvoyant.

Thank you for being a part of my life whether you were a reason a season or a

lifetime

I Know Nothing

All do know that life sometimes is easy

So therefore as previously stated a rough life I do some times live

When from your mouth the things that you say

Can you not just speak softly

Is would ask

For a full life it is

I wish to live

Please call me not lazy no effort put forth

Simple words writing to cope is my fix

Not hooked on drugs like so many before

Just a pat on the back would do me quite well

An expression of appreciation may all so recieve

Just

Trying To Save What I Can Is All

Lost Joy

Taken from me by those whom can see

See me not for my joy they have taken

I barely can speak

So it is I've been told

The words
I must learn
are not
to impress
but to fall
on the ears
that can bring
me my joy

Tears
hurt sorrow
do they now
know ravaged
down deep
inside
my soul

I have relented please will not

you

Proffer all

My Daughter

I have not seen her in more than a year they think I will get better by not seeing her

I have not finished mowing some Else's yard I am ill

I hear thunder and lightning
I will go out and finish mowing
some body Else's yard

I am 49 she is only four my only child
I go out and mow the yard

No Blame

Two family's lands so did collide the choice the children no place rest or hide

Blood intermixed whom could so for tell yet the feelings I get are so mixed

Wisdom did you try to impart unto me

No anger I feel for you knew inside me

Warning sign beside the road please of you

I ask

Not dwell

For if some one Had of stepped to the plate

Blame upon I future

different would

have made

Queen Of Pain

Cry To Me

Please of you I so do ask dont scream nor yell my soul must pass

The things that you do of those whom I care

Dont thee dare

What is it that I must so take of love to the end twine souls can make

You are suppose to care no end

If only he could understand why her pain and sorrow would pass to the bye

Blood is Blood when only a Child no excuse to this you have done to this Child

I at four would like to walk

I at four would like to talk

Therefore he can not escape you

Unto you
deprive this
soul of
all that is good
not for you any more

I have so taken all that you have thrown

Yet if you continue your throne I will have do right by the Child

Whom cannot fight for them selves

Riddle Or Parable

Age 11 allergic to rattle snake antitoxin please give me an answer to that

Age 25 most secluded place
I so could find 30 miles from
nearest hospital like kind
betrayed by love
death guaranteed
floating above myself
in emergency room
found by boy looking for frogs
six months of shame and embarrassment
trying to reajust to reality
not some ones pity
Please give me an
answer to that

Age 28 on way to school hit wall split bell helmet in half egg shell in school next day please give me an answer to that

Two dozen more of such I could so tell If you have any questions an answer to that

S. D. M.

S. D. M.

God knew our hearts while his son did depart

For the cry
on his lips
when he so
passed caused
the heavens
to move
the earth
to so shake

while upon the romans in rain his blood could not sate.

The First Shrike J.E.

Sea Of Sand

Replenished through that open door the sands of time forever more

Upon the sea would thou so ask instill upon my soul to last

Self

No change is possible without self confrontation.

The First Shrike

Stand With Me Or Not

A lettered man that knows the law is all I aks of thee

Whom forth integrity uncorrupt will come stand by me

Upon my life no names unto they

Would I so dare to speak

So here me now I beg no more

Safely hidden away I say

So betray
me no more
lie to me no more
cover up that no more

Built upon no truth

Only my freedom all said proceedings

For I now grow stronger wont tolerate said

Aforementioned

predicated premeditated prejuditcial probative none in value

In my interest
Not
Strike it from your book
only way
to cover
lies
Compromise I will
come to me soon

Tears That Are Your's

so it is as she doth say

maybe not so quite as they whom would so say

Yet upon her cheeks those tears do so burn

I cry
yet for the mask
into the soul
of one
such as this

No one should be forced to yell or screem just for a taste of some sanity so seems

When if you can if but yet you do try or if by force you make me so cry

The heed such pain is the worn of such soul

Can I so be precieved as not weak if through the mask so said tears do leak

The tears my pain salt thow may taste

Just one my tears a barrel of salt should would may you so taste

The First Shrike

The Book Of Secret's

Written from the past thousands of years recorded all last.

This question I ask

Those whom would so come along must find a way to put word unto song.
May I say

We live in a time where ear's cannot hear wisdom knowledge in song come to pass

Yet those whom such credence Walls paneled degrees

One must listen to all not people alone in nature has

been there so along.

For if just one secret in a book of thousand's

Then search for the eye that can so gaze and has so such seen the pain in the soul called Humanity. For upon there life it is required

The First Shrike

of thee

The Gordian Knot (Respune)

Gordian knot yet percieved to be different

To untangle it from yours so percieved by me They all say

Gordian knot laid upon flesh it is possible not some wooden pole

Upon our neck has been placed

Yet none of them have been able to untie me

Such from that knot has now been placed it matters no more to all whom did so know

you see there is but one trick where the fault now lays

For to do as was done so long ago

To severe the Knot with pen not sword

For they look at me have I no say when you weild the pen this sword

Yet only see part of me
I feel the pain as all other's

They see what they think they should see it is so

For some of you have most grasiously been shown

What they have been told to see have seen through my pain and by seeing in the mirror

They don't see the whole picture

The mirrow your self into your self gazing

For if they did into one's self like that

For those whom some would go crazed

I would no longer be a mystery at that unto my body inflicted like that no

They would be able to untie my mystery am I would

Should you so would think so

If they were but to classify me as plain human being

with the very same flame and not as that as you do think so of me

Yet to see the people it is whom you would call they would see

I am unique see nothing unigue at all

Just
in your
pleasure
you see
not the
mesure
please if
therefore
all prior
knowledge
it is of thee
that I so pray

Not into oblivion ever again may I see Such a forelorn place

Where no human

being held for ransom to line ones own pocket's.

With that not of linen

Of knots or people your knowledge and wisdom can supply

Apply eyes with which you have to see

For if my mind they need to look at me as not tained

Tis only with fear at the power of some with fresh eyes whom so can weild

which even the simplest and an untainted mind can see Makes the fear

grow even more so in me

You see the answer is here you seek

That in the mirror of which I speak for all to see

I am willing to share with you

All that I have but they have to be willing the hope that answer all do seek

may I help To open there eyes and mind to others

Please don't lock away again what's left of my mind

For even

the best miss some

Yet only then you can see

What is right in front of your face

There is an in between world crazy and not

You can see the answer

By that of deed and action

Is the shadow in you or could be the light. but a better human being is there

So many have missed simply for the asking

For freely
will
I give to all
If
but you would

ask the right question is all

The Law

Amazed
you would be
if but
you could see
the manner
in which
such
Laws
are made

It starts
with a bill
must be
quite
the big
thrill
to take
from our
children

Most sacred of all

Constitution
your
Bill of Rights
twist them
turn them till
you know
not what is
right

For in such a way laws

Are now

made

With out forsight then changed again by ones own opinion

They not us

Not of that which is right

In spirit so changed again

Arbitrarily so Ambiguously Premeditatedly

Thus made so

Then a law it is not

Stupid thus ignorant

I am

Alone am I In what is the Law

The Life I Waived

The wave folding over unto it's self

Some times grants a slice to the eye

Truth of ones mind so deceived by others

In fact they do so recognize in them selves

This way no headway is made

The ocean is green blue true color

Not merely seen shades of grey

The First Shrike

The Pebble And The Rock

Unto the rock the pebble so small did ask of it

Simple question was all

Great massive heavy rock how is it that you are so tall

With great effort of movment for the river a torrent

When
upon the small delicate
soft shiney
smooth
perfectly well
rounded without
flaw

Booming voice from he so tall

Mellowed his answer filled with awe

Answered the pebble with word's like this......

Tiny most humble pebble you so very long ago were once the mightiest

Mountain on the face of the Earth

To The All Poets Here

With ignorance I upon you came tolerance did you gracefully show upon such as that none of you know by happen stance circumstance humility you taught me true, grace, truth, opinions, crass to laugh, feel sad when both blue point of fact is this to you if any I have offened speak true I will apologize to from my heart speakith I to you

Tree's Unnoticed

stone to sand

Over the years a layer of stone has formed around my small heart

For I'm a human being can they not see that they hurt me so

When ever they hurt me

I cry for them some with empathy some with pain

I cannot resent them

Yes I have been wronged the lie called a song

For the suffering all indure forever goes on.

The mask as I suffer continue's to grow thicker

For the pain caused by other's just has me grow thicker

The heart in my chest I do so chose of mine own choice be soft not bitter

Yet the beat of a heart when forced to suffer it flutters shake's and do I so tremble.

For shame on those whom care so little for child barely grown whom would so aspire to the tallest RedWood if let be inspired.

For unto the light such majesty grows

Never to repel that which is love or joy

For through the stone mine root's did mix take hold so axe or stone my BARK doth repell

So as I grow taller the rock turn's to sand Now a seedling a place to make there forever new stand

For from such is the joy of love and happiness

The rain washes like tear's away the pain's

Trial's trepidation's of one's yesterday's

Forever let stay

Unkind Words

Unkind Words

Meant not for her no understanding than to say most unstable

With holding from her husband thinking me overly intelligent abundantly so

Terrible actions such lack of for sight did cause us

Things would differently be done if this knowledge I could of had

She thought I hated her when to the extrema side to that word never heard

Now she does hate me for such doings such hate I have never seen except in the movies sociopath psychopath

To mend such a thing a scar on my heart would so bare just another trick would she so think of it my sorrow she wont bear

Unnoticed Unknown

A miracle today through grace came her way

I am now assending steps that will lead me to a special place

I know that
I deserve
made mention
to me
called a
throne

If it be true many thanks will spring forth for the efforts you made to get you there

Nought but one person may sit in that seat

Then thous't is Queen.

Hevely where

the

Crown.

The First Shrike

When

We fall let it be forward

Where Has Unnoticed Unknown Gone

Upon my flesh
Upon my soul
May the Crown
you where
be it
heavenly worn

Scowered has my flesh been bared

Have a conversation for those whom care Where ever it is that you do roam

Hevely were your crown
The First Shrike

Whispering Well

A special place that none may find where winds will blow

Through out all time

They
find
a special
way
the whisper
is for
you

Joyfully things of soft breath spoken the likes of witch wont tell

The depth

Magical beauty forever wide the look such peace may none ever to hide

Without so to gain by crossing over again The misty river forever wide