

T H E R A T I O N A L E

* * * * *

How do you rationalize keeping a man in a cage?
Do you spin danger to the public as the war you must wage?
Is all hope lost if you have committed violent crime?
Will only retributive punishment work to shine the public dime?

Turnkeys and guards and wardens so dark,
Will sell you a bill whose items are stark.

No one can change, redemption is for fools!
Such rhetoric and hyperbole are their most effective tools.

From deep in your heart you know men can redeem,
This knowledge can be blocked or remain well unseen.

We all have our demons that color our world,
Our eyes hinder light that should be unfurled.

But the human condition should be served with true faith,
as but for the grace of God do many of us make haste.

The cage cannot be at the core of our beliefs,
It works not towards ills we all seek relief.

Our rationale must be love when we view the damaged past,
The hope of society on this can only last.

by TIMOTHY J. MUISE

T.J.M.

" I SAW HER,
SHE MOVED ME.
I LOVED HER,
SHE FULFILLED ME.
I NEGLECTED HER,
SHE LEFT ME.
I MISS HER,
SHE MOVES ME. "

T.J.M.