

SURVIVORS ALL  
By O. William

Survivors All,  
Everyone of us  
Who've paid the price,  
Rewards unmet.

For those of us who've met their Waterloo  
And repulsed their enemy  
Those brave men and women  
Who've been to Dunkirk  
And returned,  
Those beaten and yet unbeaten souls  
Bloodied in their struggles,  
Yet unvanquished.

For those of us  
Maligned, mistreated, abused  
Who carry on each day,  
Holding our heads up,  
Knowing we have overcome great obstacles  
Heroes in our own right.

All Survivors,  
Who are caught in the ignominy of war,  
Held hostage by an evil foe,  
Trapped in impossible relationships,  
Frozen in tragedy's time,  
We, who are tormented, persecuted, and tortured  
Have chosen to carry the torch  
To shed light on this terrible dark spot,  
In Life's very deep hole.

Our comrades in arms who died in 9-11,  
Katrina, Hurricanes Ike & Rita,  
Iraq, terrorism, Home-invasions,  
Brothers and sisters-  
Victims of crime,  
Racism, and disease  
This bell tolls for thee.

Stand Tall You Survivors,  
We tip our hats, to salute you  
We raise our mugs to cheer you  
With arms unfurled, we embrace you  
With crystal goblets, we toast you  
We open our whole hearts to you  
Dear Survivors All.

We, the unnamed foot-soldiers  
Are cancer survivors,

Are rape survivors,  
Surviving chronic depression,  
Are recovering alcoholics, drug-addicts,  
We have preserved;  
Disfigured, suffering, and forgotten  
Yet, we do not forget the past.

Survivors All,  
Surviving & Staying Alive  
In the Wilderness,  
Of His World Outdoors  
Winners over Nature's Wrath,  
Lion-hearted Champions  
Over Hell on Earth,

Valiant Warriors through the Fury  
Of Snowstorms, & Floods,  
Stoic in the face  
Of Hurricanes, and Forest Fires,  
Undaunted through Desert Heat, and Oceans' Depths,  
Undefeated in the wake of Avalanches,  
Fearless Defenders in Bear Attacks & Wild Wolf Packs.  
Fighters & Survivors  
Of Natural Disasters All.

As it was written long ago-  
"Fight the good fight of faith, then  
Take hold of the eternal life,  
To which you were called,  
When you firmly professed  
Your faith and spoke up for the truth  
Before many witnesses<sup>1</sup>".

Survivors All,  
Everyone of us  
Who've paid the price,  
Rewards met in heaven.

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<sup>1</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy, Chap 6-verse-12.

