

The twin towers came tumbling down  
Shattering our complacency, forcing us to take off our blinders,  
Shattering our world.  
So we took up arms around the world – in Afghanistan, Iraq, in Somalia, and  
Yemen.  
On the first day of the US incursion into Afghanistan a woman next to me  
said, “God is on our side.”  
Our side, Dear God, do you take sides?  
Are you not our Father whose heart is torn by Your children’s strife?  
Are you not the Shekinah who wraps Her protective wings around us and  
sings us lullabies of peace?  
We take off our shoes to ride on airplanes and Israelis quake with fear at  
Iran’s insanity.  
Why, oh, why, our God,  
Why do we live in a world so fragmented and unjust?  
Share with us Your wisdom, teach us how to deal with our fractured world,  
how to repair the madness and take away our thirst for violence and revenge.  
Help us learn how to live with each other in peace and harmony,  
How to love, to share, to have patience, perseverance, understanding and  
fortitude.  
Dear God, we ask your blessing.

Composed by Rowena Chodorow

Blessing theme: After the Towers: A Prayer for Peace