



*Back to the First light, a tribute to Lawrence Ferlinghetti by Lidia Chiarelli*

## **LIGHT ON THE WALLS OF LIFE**

*To Lawrence Ferlinghetti for his 101<sup>st</sup> birthday*

Teach me to paint  
*the light on the walls of life.*

Teach me  
to look at the world  
as you see it  
to become *a tear of the sun*  
*a hill of poetry*  
*a word in a tree.*

Lead me  
to see the sun  
hitting the sheer cliffs  
the tides that restlessly ebb and flow  
the water birds challenging the wind.

Let's listen together  
to the breath of rustling leaves  
the perfect hush of a starry night  
the sound of summer in the raindrops.

Here and now  
help me reach the very shores of light  
waiting for  
*the renaissance of wonder*  
with you  
again and forever.

**LIDIA CHIARELLI, Italy**