

This is The Fortunate Life
Joan Zen
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Passing such sadness on either side lying at your feet
Hearing the sighs as you walk by traveling up the street
You start to cry and realize it is time at last for you to get
The kind of life that makes you one of the most fortunate

For this is the fortunate life
Here in this precious place
You have your faculties and fervent faith
This is the fortunate life
You strive to be kind
Leaving ignorance behind

Inside you know it is not enough to triumph all alone
Forever all are trapped here cursed to scavenge and roam
You must take air before you pass the mask to breathe
A friend in need will benefit if you try and then succeed

This is the fortunate life
It has been written since
the beginning of existence
This is the fortunate life
To follow all the fellows
Who have paved the path before us in
This fortunate life
The vow may you now take it
Swear to never break it
In this fortunate life
Serving others as your mother
As your sisters and your brothers
Healing suffering from all the torture
All the misery and strife
This is the fortunate life

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Passing the sadness on either side the dark, uncertain street
Hearing the sighs as you walk by trav'ling on human feet
You start to cry and realize it's long past time for you to get
The kind of life that makes you one of the most fortunate

This is the fortunate life
It's here in this Now precious place
You have your mind and fervent faith
This is the fortunate life
To see the Truth and to be kind - Leaving ignorance far behind
Oh, this is the fortunate life

Inside you know it's not enough for you to triumph all alone
Forever all are trapped and cursed to sorrow and to roam
You must take in the air first before you pass the mask to breathe
A precious friend will find relief who's lying there in need

For this is the fortunate life
It's always been the seekers' task
To follow masters who hold them fast
For this is the fortunate life
The vow you must now take it – And swear to never break it
Oh, this is the fortunate life

(taken from Namchak Linage Ngöndro)
*Now that I have a human life full of leisure
I remember death from my heart
As I understand that karma is unfailing
Bless me to be free of abysmal births*

This is the fortunate life
Serving as your mothers
your precious sisters and your brothers
Now you have the most fortunate life
Healing suffering from torture - Learning to love and nurture
Oh, this is the fortunate life

