

## FRIDA KAHLO'S SECRET

By Ada Aharoni

Dear Frida Kahlo

You shared with us the secret beauty of

Your dramatic paintings in your

Own home, now turned into a museum

In Mexico City.

Your amazing colorful mystical message

Of love and pain in every blazing flower, every green leaf,

Now flows in my own veins

Whispering urgently in every painting

Every nuance of flashing colors

The very secret of life -

*"Desperta..." Wake Up to the beauty of life*

*For tomorrow you will not be here*

*Anymore!*

Beautiful, graceful, tantalizing artist friend,

Your poignant love of harmony and peace

Perfumed with deep rose Aztec flowers

And gilded incense secrets in your poetic paintings

Have richly deepened, colored and embalmed

My life.

## **NUCLEAR DETERRENCE**

By Ada Aharoni

When I see a bird  
and I say bird  
they say bird

When I hear its song  
and I say song  
they say song

But when I see bombs  
and I say bombs!  
They say peacemakers

And when I see pollution  
and I say radiation!  
They say energy

And when I see nuclear pollution  
and I say nuclear holocaust -

They say deterrence!

What kind of deterrence

Can be had

When we are all dead . . .

### **Las Manianitas**

*Dedicated to Mexican Elia Domenzain*

By Ada Aharoni

You are yourself dear Elia

One of those flashing black-eyed manianitas

Sung by King David, in your moving

Birthday song!

What a surprise to hear my grandmother

Regina's Ladino cradle song

Crowned national Mexican Birthday Anthem,

Sung by cheerful Maryachi in quaint artist cafe

And in colorful, melodious Garibaldi Square –

In the heart of Mexico City!

Did the Marranos bring the song over

The frothy oceanic waves

When they fled  
From the devouring teeth of Spain's Inquisition,  
To the redeeming, blazing sun of  
Mexico City and Monterrey?

*"Desperta!"* You taught me,  
*"Me bien despierta"* – "Wake up!  
My loved one, wake up!"  
And I woke up wide-eyed  
To the rich beauty and tragic history  
Of past and present-day Mexico, flashing  
Through your lovely blazing eyes,  
Your palpitating black hair and red lips –

WAKE UP -

And I woke up in the heart of Mexico!

