The Tragic Condition
of the Statue of Liberty

A collaboration with Emma Lazarus

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!
Give me your gentrificates of the Lower East Side
  including all the well-heeled young Europeans
  who'll take apartments without leases
Give me your landlords, give me your cooperators
Give me the guys who sell the food and the computers
to the public schools in District One
Give me the IRS-FBI-CIA men who don't take election day off

Give me the certain members of the school board & give me
the district superintendent
Give me all the greedy members of both american & foreign
capitalist religious sects
Give me the parents of the punk people
Give me the guy who puts those stickers in the Rice Krispies
Give me the doctor who thinks his time is more valuable
  than mine and my daughter's & the time of all the other
  non-doctors in this world
Give me the mayor, his mansion, and the president & his white
  house
Give me the cops who laugh and sneer at meetings where
  they demonstrate the new uses of mace and robots instead
  of the old murder against people who are being evicted
Give me the landlord's sleazy lawyers and the deal-making
  judges
  in housing court & give me the landlord's arsonist
Give me the known & unknown big important rich guys who
now bank on our quaint neighborhood
Give me, forgive me, the writers who have already or want to
write bestsellers in this country
Together we will go to restore Ellis Island, ravaged for years
by wind, weather and vandals
I was surprised and saddened when I heard that
the Statue of Liberty
was in such a serious state of disrepair & I want to help
This is the most generous contribution I can afford.