

This I Believe

**I believe the day will come
when rich and poor will stand equal before the law
And I believe the day will come when Black and White
Hispanic, Asian and Native American,
Young and old, man and woman
will stand equal before the law**

This I believe

**And I believe the day will come when the monopoly
over law and legal knowledge -- the lawyers' monopoly
the law schools' monopoly -- will be broken
When men and women and yes, even children will know that which
is expected of them and that which they can expect of others:
to refrain from harm
to honor their word
to respect the dreams of others and the right of others
to dream in their own way**

This I believe

**And I believe that the day will come when courts of law
will be courts of justice, courts for people, not courts for lawyers --
above all, courts to render simple justice, to see
that promises are honored
that the injured are made whole
that the weak are protected from the powerful and the greedy**
This I believe

**For in the fullness of time, I must believe that the voices of love
shall prevail over the voices of hate and the forces of justice
shall triumph over the forces of injustice and inhumanity**
This I believe

**But in the here and now, there can be no safety,
no guarantees and no easy way.
At each point, our faith will be tested and when weighed in the balance,
if we are honest, our best efforts will be found wanting**
This is true, this I believe

**And so, all that we have, in the here and now is
our love for each other,
our willingness to forgive each other,
our willingness to come to each other's rescue,
and our unwillingness to stand by silent or passive
in the face of injustice.**

**This is my belief, this is our joint belief and this we shall try to honor
so long as life and breath permit.**

Edgar S & Jean Camper Cahn