



Banishing the Spirit of Fear

by Alison Jennings

We possess three divine gifts
to withstand sharp arrows
of outrageous fortune,

resist violence and hatred,
thwart the spiteful fanatic,
hinder lying hypocrites.

Though power may corrupt,
love hurt, or a sound mind
stymied by circumstance,

there's still a Master Plan:

take power over your life,
love fully with no hesitation,
think calmly and clearly—

and fear not.

(inspired by 2 Timothy 1:7)

Published in "Short Takes", *Persimmon Tree*, Winter 2025-2026