

**A nontheistic prayer in the face of tragedy and death**  
**From *Another Breath: Prayers for Celebration and Reflection* by Gretta Vosper**

If the world were an easy place to live in,  
how happily ever after we all would live!

But it is not.

There is poverty.

There is illness.

There is tragedy.

There is death.

We live amongst these things

and yet,

we call ourselves people of hope.

Within our hearts and minds

lie the possibilities of a better world.

Poverty awaits a creative challenge.

Illness awaits a brilliant mind.

Tragedy awaits a loving word.

Death awaits life's celebration song.

May we each find the gift that is ours to give

alongside the courage and strength we need

to follow through on our commitments.

As light into light we pray,

Amen