

****THE LONE EXPEDITION [4-02]***

**The paths are all open; the heaven's aglow,
And I am awaiting, this journey to go.
You've been there beside me, both steadfast and true,
To help and to guide me, all life's ventures through.**

**Since early in childhood, I've known of the need,
To reach beyond malice and hatred and greed.
I've failed at each challenge, each labor, each trial.
I've failed at each step, Lord; I've missed by a mile.**

**The paths of this earth-life, I've sure beaten down,
In search of your pure light, rare jewels in your crown.
A life of transgression, a life filled with sin,
It's time for confession, Lord cleanse me within.**

**Then lift and release me, it's time that I fly,
Oh Lord, I beseech the, a path in the sky.
Your presence is in me; it's chiseled in stone,
Forgive me, Lord...take me, Lord...make me your own.**

**In memory of dear friend, Earl Shaffer*