

# When Brutal Forces Crush Out Love

*A prize-winning hymn in the Macalester Plymouth United Church Hymn Contest, 2008*

1. When bru - tal for - ces crush out love, when pain leads to de - spair,  
2. When nar - row - mind - ed acts op - pose the hu - man love we share,  
3. Still cling to faith with each new dawn, till hope de - feats de - spair.

when all we thought was good seems gone, we cry: "This is not fair!"  
or greed with - in the mar - ket - place spreads pan - ic eve - ry - where.  
Per - sist in fel - low - ship and song: dis - play Christ's love and care.

When we re - ceive a bad re - port, when floods dash brick and stone,  
We brood, la - ment, or cry out loud, as numb - ing pain we bear:  
For one faint spark of hope can burst in - to a roar - ing flame;

when bombs and bul - lets shat - ter lives, we feel a - afraid, a - lone.  
"How much must we en - dure, O God, and do you see or care?"  
the cross gives way to Eas - ter morn: "Re - joice in Je sus' name!"

WORDS: R. Frederick Crider, Jr., 2008 (Psalm 22:1, 2a; 1 Peter 4:19)

KINGSFOLD

MUSIC: English melody; arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

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