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PF

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"The first truth is that the liberty of a democracy is not safe if the people tolerate the growth of private power to a point where it becomes stronger than their democratic state itself. That, in its essence, is fascism - ownership of government by an individual, by a group, or by any other controlling private power."

- Franklin Delano Roosevelt, to congress, April 29th, 1938

The Exile's Manifesto

Church Street is a People's Street
It is not a private shopping mall
Yes, there are many businesses here
but the street does not belong to the businesses
It belongs to the People
It belongs to plumbers bus drivers janitors & cooks
Bums & schoolteachers
Church Street belongs to the brown people
who clean everyone's dirty dishes in the restaurants
It belongs to loud tattooed youth who are angsty
These youth did not invent their own angst out of spite;
it was delivered to them by America and we must help them.

Church Street belongs to radical political agitators
America was invented by radical political agitators!
Church Street belongs to the Homeless
It is for everyone even if they smell
Or don't buy anything
Or speak rudely in forceful voices about crazy things
Or make tourists uncomfortable
Smelling & rudeness & discomfort
are not against the law
They are part of life.

We cannot legislate a Utopia into existence by the art of subtraction.

Utopias do not exist
That is the reason we must live together
and learn to love each other.