“Profits Enslave the World”

By Philip Vera Cruz

While still across the ocean
I heard about the USA
So thrilled by wild imagination
I left home through Manila Bay

5  Then on my way I thought and wondered
   Alone what would the future be?
   I gambled parental care and love
   To search for human liberty

But beautiful bright pictures painted
10  Were just half of the whole story
    Reflections of great wealth and power
    In the land of slavery

Minorities to shanty towns, slums...
15  Disgraceful spots for all to see
    In the enviable Garden of Eden,
    Land of affluence and poverty

Since then I was a hungry stray dog,
   Too busy to keep myself alive...
   It seems equality and freedom
   Will never be where millionaires thrive!

A lust for power causes oppression
To rob the poor to senseless greed:
The wealthy few’s excessive profits
Tend to enslave the world to need.