In the hush of city streets, parks, and alleys wide,

Lies a divide between those with homes and those outside.

Those with and without homes, under the same sky,

Face life’s trials—addiction, abuse, illness, ties that tie.

Misrepresented by tales that bind,

Many without homes carry dreams, not defined

By streets they wander, night and day,

Merely souls in need of a different way.

A myth persists, often unchallenged and stark,

Suggesting homelessness is an everlasting mark.

Yet, in truth, most find their way out,

In less than a year, despite the doubt.

Only a fraction remain, caught in a plight,

Struggling in the shadows, out of sight.

But the vast majority see a brighter day,

Temporary hardships, not destined to stay.

Their stories woven from threads of pain,

Loss and longing, a silent refrain.

Yet in their eyes, a familiar glow,

A reflection of struggles we too know.

Homelessness, a word that bears a weight,

Of lives in limbo, left to fate.

But deeper still, a simple plea,

For compassion, dignity, empathy.

For they are not just faces in the crowd,

Their voices whisper, speak, and shout aloud.

A call to see beyond the streets,

To understand, to offer peace.

So let's look beyond the misconceptions wide,

To see the humanity that resides inside.

For in the end, when all is done and said,

We share the same earth, our common bed.

No walls grant immunity from life's pressing trials,

Be it under open skies or behind doors by miles.

Addiction, grief, and turmoil, indifferent to our state,

Connect us in our human plight, an indiscriminate fate.

Perhaps it's time to shed the label, "homeless," quite bare,  
And see those without homes in need of compassion and care.  
Is there anyone among us not needing care's embrace?

In our need for care, not enclosures, we find a common space.

Bound not by the roofs we have, but by hearts open wide,  
Let’s bridge the gap with empathy, let our prejudices slide.  
For in the end, we’re all the same, under the vast, endless dome,  
Seeking kindness, understanding, and a place to call home.