

## LINES PENNED IN MILD DISILLUSIONMENT

The toothpaste tube of life  
surprisingly is squeezed  
to crumpled flatness  
(the generous years of youth  
with wanton ease  
extruded out,  
no adult-minded doubt  
of coming to an end  
yet evident).  
And now, half-squashed, half-rolled,  
suddenly I'm old.

The years from teens to thirties  
dispelled, like evening dreams  
one scarce remembers,  
can hardly be redeemed  
or coerced smoothly back  
into the tube.

My time was God's. I sloshed  
it out unstintingly  
to counter truth decay.  
A whole world to be washed!  
No time for play!  
And now, half-squeezed, half-used,  
I'm disabused.

Anyone for tennis?

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## About Dr Barry Chant

Barry Chant is Senior Pastor of the Wesley International Congregation in Sydney, Australia. He is a regular speaker at church services, seminars, conferences and conventions. Hundreds of thousands of his books have been sold around the world. He has degrees in arts, theology and ministry, a diploma in education and a PhD in history. He was the initiator and former president of Tabor College, Australia.

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