

THIS CHILD

TONI SCORSESE

This child's woe: Wednesday's madness challenged my station on Earth.

Told not to fear, not to fret – as *if*.

This child's grief: Sunday's wishes humbled my passion on Earth.

Told not to speak, not to bitch – as *if*.

This child's hope: Next month's gift incites my purpose on Earth.

Told not to dream, not to want – as *if*.

What? Maybe I'm done.