

Moments

The Rebirth of a Soul

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A Few Words From the Author

The contents of “Moments – The Rebirth of a Soul” were compiled more than thirty years ago. I don’t know if the reasons why I wrote these words even know that they were those reasons.

These moments are not in the order in which they were written. They are in the order of when they were placed in the loose-leaf notebook. That has likely changed many times.

There are more moments that have been set to paper that probably should be included within these pages. I have selected the moments that I feel all can share.

I am immensely grateful to those who contributed to the creation of these thoughts. I certainly didn’t keep a list, and wouldn’t reveal any of the participants, if I had done so. I hope that all will realize my gratitude for what they have been a part of.

The Poet's Prayer

May the words that fall from my pen
To splash upon innocent paper
Be worthy of the attention

May my heart be filled with the
Sorrows and joys of those who read
That what I write may be what they
Would want to say

Let my fingers write the words
So that what is written is a reflection
Of what I truly feel
Not some commercial echoing
Of mortal tributes

Let the love I feel
Flow to the pen
Felt by uncounted souls
In need of comfort

And let not the words
Stop flowing

Give me the inspiration and compassion
To detect
My inner feelings and put
Them on paper

Moments

A moment
Is the fleeting glimpse of time
A single beat of a hummingbird's wing

A moment
Is the journey of a mother's tear
As she listens to her child's first prayer

A moment
Is a glance that tells all
And hints at everything
A moment
Is the first date

First kiss
First love

A moment
Is an eternity of love and sharing

A moment
Is this earth
A lifetime to us

A moment
To God

If

If you have need of one to bathe
Your fevered brow
I will come in haste to take my place
At your side

If you need direction on a storm-tossed sea
Look my way
I will be the light to guide you safely
To the shore

If your heart is filled with sadness
Towering over you like the mighty forest
I will lead you to clearing where you may
Touch the sky

If we travel down life's highway
Together
My heart will soar with the
Eagles

If we become one
Forever
My love will surely be deeper than the
Oceans

But if we are not part of
His plans
I will set you free, free to soar like a
Butterfly
Floating forever on the wings of
Eternity

Tomorrow

Tomorrow –
How the hours pass so slowly
Like a snail on a journey through the forest

Tomorrow –
She will reach out to me
And our hearts will beat as one

Tomorrow –
The tears of joy will fall
Cascading upon the flowers at her feet

Tomorrow –
On earth, so far away
But moments in the Master Plan

Tomorrow –
There is a tomorrow when we will gaze upon each other
Caressed by purity
Walking on billows of white
Promising our tomorrows
Together

Tomorrow –

The Castle

Along the castle parapet, I gaze
Into the far off distance, seeing
Nothing
No trees, no flowers
Just emptiness of mind and
Heart

Then finally come the shadowed beat of
Dawn
Cloaking the grasses
Pressed
Into the bosom of the
Forest

Along the castle parapet, I gaze
And see a shimmering of

Light
The sun
I watch as flowers turn their faces to
The source of life
And trees reach up their arms in silent
Prayer

Along the castle parapet, I gaze
Into a grove where walks a shimmering figure
A Guinevere, a Juliet
A maid in shining armor
Sent to save me from
Myself

The Search

I search through forgotten corners of my mind
The dust of centuries hindering my progress
The cobwebs of ages clinging to my every turn

I search for mists of memories of what I was
Of where I was
Of who I was
So many lifetimes in my past

I search for questions unanswered
Answers unquestioned
Forgotten thoughts of memories removed

Did I?
Was I?
Have I passed this way before?
Did I hold you in some long forgotten time?

There is one answer -- I do not know
I search for a long forgotten past
A hint of what came before

Doubt not today
Cease not to build for tomorrow
Search
Search the corners for a
Memory
Of you

Birth

Were we together then?
Did we reach through space with promises?
Did we speak in voices hushed about Eternity together?
Were there tears of joy when we discovered our turn next,
To turn to sorrow when we recalled the Plan?
Did we hold close our spirits,
Rejoicing in the future, clinging to the past?
Are you but a faded memory of something greater,
Of love created by our Father?
You touch my hand,
I feel the power of something gone before,
A glowing from within,
Returning thoughts of days gone by.
Is our love meant to be?
Like a flower clinging to the barest life in winter,
Has our promise fought to surface through the mists of time?
I look towards the Heavens for a single hint of answer,
Emotions warm within me,
Precious seeds of love.
I search my mind for threads of memory,
a candle giving light to a questioning soul.
Were we together then?
Has our love survived the test of time and separation
Flourishing in hope,
Enduring,
Growing,
Nourished as a spirit in our hearts,
Sent to us,
As in the Master Plan,
To be given birth.

Thoughts

I thought of you today
Although the space of time and miles keeps us
From each other's arms
Your memory has a
Haven in my heart and mind.

I thought of you today
I touched the cheek
Where once your lips had
Brushed their hint of

Love to come

I thought of you today
I marveled at the love
You offer me
Unashamed to tell
Me how you feel

I thought of you today
I recalled the sparkle in your eye
The laugh that comes
From deep within
Lifted by love

I thought of you today
I hungered for your
Hand in mine
Crying out for your
Spirit next to me

I thought of you today
I wished you could be near
So I could say
I love you

The Fire

We sit together
Touching only with our hearts and minds
Silent in our lives
Cherishing the warmth of promises untold

We reach across the void
Our hands like a rose climbing a trellis
Secure in the glow of the moment

I hold you close
Your head resting on my chest
Protected by my arms around your shoulders

I search your eyes for answers to
Unspoken questions
From deep within my heart

You smile with hints of promises unspoken
The spark of love's fires

Burning deep inside

The hearth is the soul
The fire is the love given by our Father
The fuel is Eternity

Love

Love is not shouted from the highest hilltop
To awaken sleeping inhabitants in the valley below.
Love is a tender word to a child who has fallen in the grass,
Unhurt, but needing reassurance.

Love is not turning away in anger,
Defiant in forgotten wrongs,
Unclosed wounds of some imagined pain.
Love is quiet moments seeking out the mists
Of agony not yet surfaced,
Brushing away a tear not really there.

Love is not a selfish thing,
Demanding something unpossessed,
Giving nothing for fear of getting nothing in return.
Love is a commitment so total and unashamed
That the mountains fill with pride.

Love is forever,
An act of devotion so great,
That changes the lives of all,
Without a single thought of something in return.

The Forest

Along a dusty road I walk
With nothing for companionship
Save clouds of billowy white
And carpets of green at my feet

A butterfly takes wing before me
Pulsating beauty
Reaching for the sun

My ears with quiet hunger
Focus on the labors of a thousand bees

Preparing for the winter snows

I bend to grasp a dew-drenched petal
Shimmering in waves
As if blessed by a hundred suns

Beside a brook I ponder
For a moment
Deep in thoughts of yesterday
Enfolded by the hopes and dreams
Of tomorrow

I look towards the sky
In silent prayer
That this day may live in memory
Forever

In the glowing sunset
Ripe with promises of days to come
I walk the dusty road once more
Renewed
At peace
Grateful for a walk in
The forest

The Grove

I walked into the grove today
The tears of countless heartaches on my shoulders
I saw the grove today
And marveled at cathedral spires of mighty pines
A robin flitting homeward to her young
A doe serenely nursing her fawn
A squirrel searching fallen leaves for some forgotten snack
A spring flower lifting up its head to the sun
I listened to the grove today
The faint hum of bees returning with their harvest
The sigh of wind high up in the needles
That chatter of the brook as it tumbles over glistening rocks
I felt the power of the grove today
Looked up to Heaven in silent prayer
Felt the pain of endless tears drop from my heart
Looked out upon the world with eyes that once more see
Heard the faint cry of delight of a baby in its mother's embrace
Learned the words that open doors like magic
I love

Someday

Someday, I'll have a body, just like Dad's.

Someday, I'll be able to control my own destiny, just like He did.

Someday, I'll go to earth, experiencing my own birth.

Someday, I'll be a child, running through new mown grass to tumble into a pile of leaves.

Someday, I will have a puppy, to love, to care for, something of my very own.

Someday, I'll go to school, crying out for Mommy on my first day.

Someday, I'll go out on my first date, shy, concerned about spilling the popcorn at the movies.

Someday, I'll leave my small town behind for new adventures at a large university, to be named later.

Someday, I'll fall in love, at least for a semester.

Someday, I will marry; and marry.

Someday, I will find the one I should have found a long time ago.

Someday, we will walk through those doors, promising devotion and love.

Someday, we'll look over our own destiny, listening to our children say

Someday, I'll have a body, just like Dad's.

Questions

Why do I awake each morning, think of you and smile?

Was there a beginning, somewhere, sometime so long ago, of this cherished love?

Why does the sun hide behind the clouds when you're not with me?

Will spring replace the mantle of winter with a carpet of color if you are not there to greet it?

Can the meadowlark recite its serenade without your laughter to guide its song?

Are the petals of the rose still able to open to the sun without your smile to awaken them?

Why does the time stand still in anguish when we are apart?

Did we share moments sweet among the clouds?

The Journey

You went from me today
And though you would be gone
But hours short
A piece of me went running down the lane
Calling after
Wait
My darling
Wait
If you can not remain with me
Let me follow you

You went from me one time before
A few short days ago
Though I waited but moments for my turn
Our maps of life were flawed with
Faded ink and wrinkles
We wandered long before we felt the
Search had led us nigh

You went from me today
And though the mortal time and distance
Forces us apart
You fill my every hour
With memories of fleeting moments
Joy that we may someday soon
Reach out with
Love unwavering
Promises eternal
Never more from me depart

The Promise

A few short moments past
In a city above the clouds
We promised love undying
Forever

We looked beyond the boundless expanse
Of the universe
To a life eternal, love eternal
We spoke in soft whispers of mortal years
Spirits united
Promises unchained by earthly days

Gaily laughing
We ran off to join mortality
Uncounted promises cast aside by
Plans exalted
No more did love reach out to join
Two entities as one
The fires deep within had died as
Sunset stills the meadowlark

Along the corridors of life
I wandered
Led by nothing, believing nothing
A leaf blown by the winds of chance
An endless search of what I did not know
My soul reaching for one that would not answer
Or could not

You touched me then
An avalanche of memories cascading from
My past
Awakening forgotten dreams
And promises

The Path

Yesterday
I could not walk
I stumbled down a path so strewn with
Boulders
My progress was on hands
And knees
I was blind
My concepts of my destination
Only that which ears could hear
So intent upon the ground ahead
I could not see beyond an outstretched hand

Today I stride erect
My path is clear

My knees support my thankful heart with
 Prayer
 My sight has been restored
 My goals are clear before me
 The light has pierced
 The darkness long my only friend
 The destination
 So long hidden in clouds of gray
 Sits golden on the horizon

No longer do I look upon
 The ground
 Except to gaze at buttercups
 But often on my knees
 I give thanks to Him that sent
 You
 Clarity to life, sunshine to my days
 And joy
 Forever
 As we walk the path
 Together

Rebirth

I died
 So long ago I died
 A death far more horrible than
 Sorrows of war
 I walked away from
 The Light
 Turned my back on
 Truth
 Ignored the pleadings of a small
 Voice in the night
 I listened with ears no longer
 Tuned to Heaven
 I entered the land of darkness
 The power of the world at my fingertips
 The pleasures of the world at my beck and call
 In the midnight of my journey
 Darkness blocking out all light
 I sought the answer for true happiness
 The happiness found only in
 The Son
 In my loneliest hour I called to
 Him

I opened my eyes once more
Discovered I could see the light
Still shining
On a distant mountain top
I have returned to
Him
Spirit and body reunited in destination
Reborn
Though never dead

The Edge

The people in the valley
Are like ants
Meandering about their tasks
Storing mortal fruits and berries
For the winter of their souls
Rivers blue snake lazily through
Groves of pines reaching upward
As if to climb above such earthly dreams
Here on the mountain
Far above the mire of sin and earthly pleasures
We gaze onward at a sky of blue
Reflecting
Eternity
I looked around
And saw you creeping near the edge

I extended my hand in love
To stop a kindred soul from stumbling
Crashing
Tumbling down the mountain

No
You cried
I will not stumble
The edge is not so precarious
That I can challenge
Danger
And still keep my balance

Off you ran
Laughing
Playing near the edge
I sent a silent prayer
To heaven

That you would not
Fall

She

She came when darkness
Filled my heart
No light could enter in

She came when I had stumbled
Stumbled so far down the path
The mountain-top no longer could be seen

She stepped into my life like a candle
Shining at midnight on a far-off hill
At first she led
For I was weak
And unaccustomed to the trail

At times she had to stop a moment
Waiting patiently for me to catch my breath
She often extended her hand to steady weary legs
Not used to a path so steep and narrow

She awakened love that once was dead
She opened doors that once were closed
She walks beside me now

For I have gained the strength
To walk beside her
She daily guides my thoughts
My dreams
My prayers

She is the one to whom I pledge undying love
Forever love
Together for Eternity

My Room

I sit alone
My sole companion
Music
Drifting softly from the shadows

Rain dances down the window pane
Like ants
Returning home in haste

Your face reflects back from the
Gloom of the night
Captured in the shimmering glass

Laughter bubbles from a hidden
Corner of my mind

My ears reach out to capture
Soft winds of your walk

Your soft perfume
Haunts my senses

Recalling days spent arm in arm
Nights of quiet meditation

Your memory invades every room
I walk slowly through the halls
Glance carefully into each corner
Slowly convince
My heart
That you are here in memory only

I sit again
Waiting until you
Walk through that door

Another Time

Another time
Another place
I've seen these streets
These trees before

Another life
Another face
The memory of the past grows dim once more
Have we been fortunate to live
And see the hope that lingers in a dying flame
Have we been fortunate to meet
These friends before
And greet them once again

The question still remains that somehow
Somewhere life was just like this
The avenue so broad and wide
The sky so blue
Won't hide in clouds of gray

And so I asked a passer-by
What is this hamlet I find here
In what country lies this wondrous place
He smiled
And looked across the rolling hills
This is God's Country
Said he
The city is
Salvation
And the avenue on which you walked is called
Repentance
It is broad and wide
With many shops to rest the tired feet
It leads to the city square
Eternal life
Follow it
My friend

The Question: What's Goin' On? (A Tongue-in-Cheek Look)

Whut in ternation's goin' on?
Whut's happinin' 'round here?
Ya sits youself down over there,
An' listen to me clear.

They's answers what I gats ta have
Ta a question, maybe two.
They's sumpin' strange a goin' on
Its a happinin' ta you.

Ya lookin' mightly peeked late,
Like you was mighty ill.
Course, pickles, they don't make a meal,
An' ice cream, it don't fill

An' all them foolish questions
"bout George and Tom and Ted;
Whut does I think 'bout names like Anne,

Or even about Fred.

George lives down the lane a piece;
 'Bout Tom I cain't much say.
 I never met this one called Anne;
 Poor Fred died yestiday.

I gats to go back to the barn,
 Milk the cows and slop the hogs.
 Maybe cut a little cotton
 Or start snakin' in some logs

But I'll be back in 'bout an hour;
 Ya'll fix me up some chow.
 Fry them taters real crisp,
 Some eggs and bacon now.

But jist one question a-fore I leave
 Ta do what I gats ta do:
 Whut in ternation's goin' on?
 Whut's come over you?

Destiny

The blue of sky sinks slowly down
 To meet the meadows green;
 The ancient forest lifts its arms
 To grasp the high winds clean.

The grass becomes a carpet now
 Beneath my tired feet,
 For I have come to this lone hill,
 My destiny to meet.

A whispered voice, its message clear,
 Comes searching out to me.
 And I respond: "I hear you, Lord;
 I now return to Thee".

Lord, I have seen the trials of Life,
 And tasted bitter fruit;
 And I now know my time is past
 I no more have the youth

To lend a helping hand in conflicts
 That the Adversary sends.

The soul is strong, the mind is weak,
No more the body mends.

I'm coming, Lord, so hold them wide
Those Pearly Gates so dear.
I hear your voice, I feel your hand
My destiny is here.

Lonely

Lonely
It's not just another word
For holding no-one
It's an ache that cuts deep
Deep into the bone
Cold and dark

Lonely
Is setting the table for two
Knowing that only one plate will get dirty
But secure in the hope
That maybe someone will knock

Lonely
Is waiting for the phone to ring
Even a call from Mom
Better wear your raincoat
It might rain today

Lonely
Is a walk on the beach
Without seeing the shells
Glisten in the sunlight

Without hearing the calls of the
Gulls flying high
All that can be seen
Is dirty sand

Horizons

It shimmers in the sunset
Distant objects receding with the onset
Of darkness

Trees within touch
Of the outstretched hand
Disappear in the gloom of nightfall
Spires merging to one
In the encroaching shadows
Atop my hill
I watch my world collapse
As a balloon whispers
Its life
Where am I going
To what part of my horizon
Will my feet lead me
The expanse is great
The journey long and hazardous
Will my world be as nightfall
Shrunken by darkness
Or will I open eyes
Eyes almost blinded by worldly lights
Will my world someday
Find the light of Our Savior

The flicker of a campfire
Pushes the darkness back into the trees
Like the light of the Plan
Begins to push darkness from the world
And my world begins to take shape around me
Horizons once dark begin to glow
In the early rays of the Son

Where?

Where am I going
What is my destination
I look around and wonder where I want to be
What do I want
Am I where I think
I think others want me to be
.Is the trip worth the fare

Have I come as far as I think I have
Or is this an illusion of time and space
I look back on yesterday
And wonder if it wasn't
Easier to live the old life
Easier not to worry about
Tomorrow

I have no answer to where I want to be
 My dreams are not yet formed
 I can only look back and wonder
 Wonder what would be different
 If things could be changed
 Would I do anything different
 I have no answer to that

And the question returns
 Where am I going

So Far

I've come so far
 But yet have far to go
 My pathway back is strewn
 With deadfalls, boulders
 Quicksand of memories
 Reaching out to snare

I've come so far
 From where I was before
 The memories of yesterday
 Burn bright still
 But not so fierce
 That I can not see light before me

I've come so far
 Tried leaping
 When a child's step
 Was all that was expected
 Took giant strides
 Across small trickles shimmering in sunlight
 Only to crumple on legs not used to standing

I've come so far
 But want to regain lost ground
 In a single bound
 Knowing it's not wise to run
 Before I learn to walk
 Father

I've come so far
 Do not let me stumble
 For I have so far to go

Inspiration

I built my dreams with you, but you have gone away
Now words no longer freely flow
Confined to disjointed abstract paintings
Are the glowing colors once imagined
Once applied to canvas in my mind
The feelings so vividly expressed
Remain trapped within a water-color box no longer opened
The canvas limp and dusty in corners no longer visited

You've gone away
But memories of better times still haunt my waking hours
Reviving dreams and thoughts no longer shared
Beside me in your shadow stands one who shares my time
Seeds of hope are planted in barren soil
Nurtured with care
The sparse petals lost in the arid expanse
Tears of sorrow falling as rain
Upon the yellowing grass beneath her feet

No longer do the sunsets shimmer in golds and reds
Against a curtain of blue and snowy white
The lowering of the sun signals only the onset of nightfall

It's gone
Gone is the inspiration that directed life
Gave color to the meadow
Brought life to the forest with the song of the morning robin
Placed dew gently upon the evening grasses

Lost forever
Lost in the mindless search for an identity
Placed lovingly in view only to be cast aside
In relentless preoccupation to gratify today's desires
My search is no longer paramount no more the driving ambition
My quest now is for inner peace
An answer to a question of the soul
That echoes through my being
Where is my inspiration

Two Worlds

The love we shared is cast aside like yesterday's newspaper
Tomorrow's dreams no longer splashing reds and yellows

Through the patch-work of our thoughts
Only photographs of faded black and white
Fill yellowed pages of our minds
The albums of some long forgotten dream

I cannot live in your world
Where memories of yesterday and hopes only imagined
Confine into a cage a spirit that must soar with eagles
My view is blocked by towering walls
Built to hide you from yourself

You cannot live in my world
The love I offer you is not a friend
You need answers spelled out on billboards
Written in absolutes
You are not ready to venture from your cave

In tears I gaze out on my world
See only shattered dreams
The broken monuments now tangled ruins on an arid plain
Forests once a sea of green
In prayer turn browning needles to the heavens
Canyons splashed with brilliant colors now cradle only
Rivers of sand
The sky once bright with blue and white turns slowly gray and dark

We must remain as two worlds
Each an identity orbiting in friendly space
Trajectories well known and familiar
I cannot live in your world
You cannot live in mine
We must remain as two

Second Chance

Will I be given a second chance
A second chance to succeed or fail
I tried to make a start
Then fell again by the wayside
I started to get up
But thought that the effort was too much
Too much for tired bones
Too much for one who would only stumble again
Success was too long a trail to climb
But, here I am again
Standing at the bottom

Looking up the mountain
The mountain
I tried to climb
Once before

Will I be given a second chance
Or will I cast that hope aside
When the trail becomes too steep for my feeble legs
The attempt made before
Was halted by a fork-in the trail
That led to earthly pleasures
With sightless eyes
The road to destruction was followed
With only an occasional backward glance
I struck off in search of new experiences
Forgetting that those same experiences
Had been the cause of tears and sorrow

Will I be given a second chance
And what will I do with it this time
I know that I should be where I am not
I know that there is a better life to live
And now that I know there is hope
I will take that second chance
And succeed

The End

He died today
A man I knew well
Far too well
No tears of sorrow
Will be shed for his passing
Far too many hearts
Cried for him while he was living
Too many hands reached out for love
And found nothing but emptiness

He died today
A man I knew well
He left no void when he was gone
No shoes too large to fill
He will be remembered for what might have been
What he might have done with his life
So many, many days ago
So much of tomorrow was thrown aside

For a glimpse of today
A journey into the world
Reaching out to hold
A moment's pleasure in his hand

He died today
A man I knew well
And in his place walks
One who now stands tall
Secure in the knowledge of his future
Confident in the stand he takes
The decisions that are made
A new man lives where once a soul had died
Yesterday looks onward
Tomorrow promises much
For a man I knew well
Far too well
Who has met the end

Watching and Waiting

How can I describe
The sound
Of a busy signal
I want to talk to you
But you are busy elsewhere
The lines of communication
Disrupted
I want to hear your voice
But all I hear is
Beep
Beep
Beep
Or sometimes the operator
Tells me that the call cannot be completed
As dialed
Does she know
That in my haste
My fingers hit the wrong keys
Or so swiftly pressed the sequence
That the Genii could not keep up
And so I sit
Watching and Waiting
The clock slowly passes its hands
Over its face
I reach out once more

Dial your number
And hear
Beep
Beep
Beep
Just sitting around
Watching and waiting

A Dream

If I could hold
A dream
Within my arms
A thought with life bestowed
Intangible desire
By some unknown made whole
It would be you

If dreams
With form be blessed
Be given breath
Ability to walk and talk
And dreamers
Offered chance
To reach out
Sense
The visions held so long
Entrapped by worldly minds
It would be you

From recessed
Hidden
Crevasses of mind
You billow
Shimmering above me
Flowing mists of midnight thoughts

I dare not reach to you
For you are just a dream
But
If I could hold
A dream
It would be you

Of You

I often catch myself
Staring at some far off
Corner of the room
Concentrating on memories of you
Formulating plans
That someday may come true
Creating hopes that carry me through
Another day

Dreams
Creations of mind
Visions of some future moment

I am unable to reveal inner thoughts
Now is not the time
To paint the pictures flowing through my mind
You are not ready to hear what I have to say

If we are but coincidence
Two ships passing in the night
These dreams will be as naught
Melting as ice under a summer sun

But
If you are the answer to a silent prayer
And he has directed our paths
The dreams held silent
Someday will take form

Calm, Cool, and Collected

This smiling face of studied nerve
Hides boiling cauldrons
Waiting to burst forth

You see only an exposed facade
While deep beneath the surface
Hibernates a heart
Waiting for a chance to reveal itself

Exteriors belie the
Contents held with-in
A flash of coloring to cover

Flaws imagined
Your touch rekindles fires
Long banked and forgotten
But unaccustomed to exposure
That must remain closetted within

Ice water doesn't flow within
But I must not reveal
My dreams

The past is far too recent
Tears too near the surface
For me to tell you how I feel
The fears you have revealed to me
Demand caution

I want to reach out
Hold you
Fashion plans eternal

But
I must remain
Calm
Cool
And collected

Tongue-Tied

How can I tell you how
I feel
Reveal what is felt
Inside
Acknowledge something growing
Deep within

Each time I try
To speak
My heart gets in the way

So much remembered pain
Of broken dreams
Demands with caution I proceed
Although my heart with leaps and bounds
Has joyously run far ahead

I know that love must grow

No one is given privilege to tumble
Down a mountainside
Collapsing at the bottom with a
Dream
We do not
Fall
In love
A small seed must be planted
Nurtured
Fed
Watered
Blossom one day in promises eternal

A few short moments past
We met
Cupid surely filled the sky with arrows
But here I sit
Each time I try to speak
My heart gets in the way

Too Much To Lose

How easy it would be to fall into the trap
The feelings I have for you
Require constant supervision
The pleasures of the world are too inviting
To deal with lightly
I have too much to lose

When you are close
My heart rejoices
Swells within me with love for you
I want to reach out
Show you how much I care
I have too much to lose

You tell me that you care
That you want the dreams and hopes within to take form
You have turned from your past
Returned to the highway to heaven
You must not stumble
You have too much to lose

We share a common goal
A common dream
If we walk through this life together

It is His will
But we must be aware
We both
Have too much to lose

Within

The words that flowed
Endlessly
Have returned
At one point
Arid and dusty
The well
Has again begun to flow

I search deep within
Find feelings long held prisoner
Permitted no sunlight
You have opened the reservoir
From which flows color and beauty
Emotion long forgotten

Before you
Words were formed in darkness
Despair a constant companion
An endless search for hope
Reflecting only loneliness

And then came you
Up from the ashes
Rose again the Phoenix

Again the well flows sweet and clear
From deep within
Spring colors long forgotten
From caverns dark
Flow feelings long lost

Mysteries

The mysteries of paths that cross
And lives that merge
Into a common goal
Remain

Two people continents apart
By some miracle of chance
Find unity of thought
Learn principles Eternal
While love is given opportunity to grow
A prayer is answered
Hope emerges from the ruins of past defeats

We are not pawns on some giant chessboard
Moved on orchestrated whim
We can deny the choices offered
Preferring other solutions
Only through tested principles of thought and faith
Might we make ourselves available to take
The correct path

And when we have detected
Divine intervention
We must set forth upon that course
Outlined
For us to follow
It is not one of the unanswered mysteries that has
Placed us in this time and space
We are part of His plans
It is now up to us
To complete
That which He has initiated

Long Road Back

It's a long road back
From where you've been
And 'though it seems
An overwhelming task
With His help
It can be done
With His help
The battle can be won

It's a long road back
And many do not wish
You success on the trip
Many want to see you fall
Watch your good intentions
Blow away like dust

I've been there before
I know the perils you are facing
Take my hand
And let me steady you
We can walk
The long road back
Together

For the Rest of My Life

What are you doing
For the rest of my life,
Will you walk by my side
As companion and wife

Can we plan for the future
With God as our guide
Will you never depart from me
Stay by my side

As we strive for the blessings
That righteousness brings.
Share moments together
Watch birds on the wing

Take walks in the forest
Refreshing our love
A gift from our
Father In Heaven above

Loving forever
As husband and wife
What are you doing
For the rest of my life

With Him

If we will
Keep a knee upon the ground
In prayer
Requesting guidance
On our journey
If we will
Follow principles

Eternal In our quest
We will walk
With Him

Our beginning was with
His helping hand
An inner voice
With answers
To a searching soul

Upon our knees
We asked for guidance
Felt the answers burn within
With Him
The visions will take form

From out of clouded minds
The shapes of futures will be molded
We start
Anew
Upon the pathway leading to His throne
Together
We will walk
With prayer
Our hands entwined with His
Our hearts
In tune
With Him

For You

I give to you no earthly wealth
No rubies
No diamonds or emeralds
I offer you no throne to sit upon
My lands do not extend beyond
The horizon
I give you only promises
A covenant
That you will never want for love
For I will love you always
A love that grows each hour
Swelling
Reaching for the heavens
I can not lay gold at your feet
The riches I give are sent from

Him above
A journey
Along the paths of righteousness
Fulfilling potentials
Promised by our Father
What I offer
Are more precious than rubies
Eternal life
Exaltation
Residing with our Father
They are ours to hold
If we will but reach out
Hold each other close
And walk together
With Him

Too Fast

You say that things are moving too fast
With blinding speed
That you must have some time to
Catch up with the feelings
Growing deep within

OK
It's yours
I'll give you the time to sort out
Worldly thoughts
From those our Father
Wants to place within
Your heart and soul

You'll have the time to strengthen
Love
To build upon those feelings
Small and fragile
I will wait
For I believe the promptings
Of the Holy Spirit
The plans
He has for me
Include you

But you must not become mired in the clay of
Indecision
You must come to terms with

Our Heavenly Father
Gain the faith to hold onto what
He has given us
Do not hesitate
Time waits for no one
I will give you time
You must now ask of Him

A Covenant

How can I explain
The confidence I feel
In our ability to make our plans
Succeed
How can I convince you
Let you know the
Strength of my faith
Faith in Our Father
Faith that we are fulfilling
His plan
I can prove nothing
My conviction of our success Is built upon faith
Not proof
I can not illustrate our lives
On canvas
Or take pictures of tomorrow
I can not present to you
A signed document
Stating that we will have fifty years together
I can only hold out my hand
In love
Given freely forever
Confident in Our Father
Believing in His promises to us
A covenant between three
A woman
A man
And God

Untitled

The ticking
Of the mantle clock
Disturbs

The thoughts
Of future plans
And dreams

Solemn thunder
Marks
The midnight hour
As I retreat
Into cocoons
Of memories

Silence echoes
Back from
Corners long forgotten

Dusty harbors
For wind-tossed reflections

Cotton-candy wisps
Of despair
Begin to enfold

Searching inward
The past
Marches by on
Cats feet

Measured by tears
That slowly trickle down
To fall
Upon the cobblestone

Yesterday's Man

The thoughts that once flowed freely
Almost as if in desperation
Hastening to attend each question
Find pen and paper no longer awaits
Emotions that once exploded upon heart and mind
As if with fire
Devouring all conscious thought
Find no more earthquakes to topple sanity
Where has it gone
This fierce desire to answer all
This overwhelming need to insure each waking moment
Be without questions

The love for you that flows within my heart
Grows daily ever stronger
Expanding my universe
With goals undreamed before
A new man begins to emerge from the ruins of yesterday
The past remains to haunt
As new roles must be learned
While trying to disregard old characters
Attitudes change slowly
And not without resentment
The dreams once so important
Give up their hold only after combat
I question not the dreams you have for me
They are what I wanted
So long ago
Before you gave me confidence and desire to achieve
Do not assume my new goals are only because of you
The small taste of success has filled me with new dreams
New goals
Those things once done for you
Are now for me
The patterns of the past have been destroyed
Yesterday's man exists no more
Let him die
Allow the new creation to fulfill his destiny

Words

The words
I want to say
The thoughts that flow from deep within
Somehow find pen and paper more receptive
A clarity of mind and heart
That follows paths of ink across the pages of time

Why do I find
Emotions take shape
With printed letters
Far more readily
Than conversation
Does your presence
Force the concepts to retreat
What inner magic strolls from hidden crevices?
When reams of virgin parchment meet the eye

No answer flows within

The canvas of the mind needs solemn moments
Inner meditation
So that cherished hopes and dreams
More vividly be illustrated
I will not cease to call your name
To reassure you of the love that flows within
Nor will I cease to fill the pages of our book of life
With dreams and hopes
Not easily expressed by tongue
I love you
I need you
I want you beside me forever
These are but a few of the words that I will say
Words to tell you how I feel
And upon paper
Those same words
I love you
I need you
I want you beside me forever

Destiny, Part 2

The tears
That once were shed for me
In vain
For I have walked away
Might now be tears
Of joy
If eyes were given chance to see
The man I have become

Those who sought to guide me through the darkness
Might now know that I have found
My destiny

Each hand I touched upon
My journey
Removed some undesired trait
As with a jeweller
By progressive finer grit
A gem begins to polish
Until
Like magic
It becomes as smooth as glass

To her who brought me

From the depths of darkness I give thanks
Her role to plant a seed
Of confidence to return to
Unfamiliar paths

To her who gave me vision
Of what I might become
I give thanks

She filled my heart
With goals not yet imagined
Implanted self-respect not previously possessed

And to her who shapes my dreams
I give undying love
For you have opened eyes long blind
Brought hope to a soul long dead
Your role is the final polish
A mirrored finish
Ready to be set into gold

To you
My special thanks

For without you
I would not be

Without you
My destiny would be just a dream

Today, Tomorrow, Forever

I wish that I could
Wave a magic wand
Or gaze into a crystal ball
And see into the future
See what tomorrow will bring
And give you answers
To a hundred
Unspoken questions

I wish that I could give you
Words of promise
That would erase the fears
Of yesterday
But

What words to choose to
 Tell you of the distance
 I have travelled
 How best to paint
 A picture
 Of where I have been
 And where I am going

I know what I have been
 And where
 Memories of yesterday haunt my every
 Hour
 If wishes on a falling star
 Were granted
 Mine would be that
 I could step back in
 Time
 Relive those many years
 The tears that fall today
 Might then be
 Joy

How do I give you
 Confidence
 In the future
 That what has been
 Will not again be
 Upon which mountaintop
 Must I acclaim the promises of forever

Mere words will not combat
 The memories of my past
 Or yours
 I can only hope to show you
 The love
 I have for you
 A dedication of my life to you
 Promising undying love
 A commitment of Eternal loyalty
 A knowledge that I always
 Will be true
 Today, Tomorrow, Forever

Changes

I do not fear the changes that begin

To alter
 My life
 I know well
 That I was not where I wanted to be
 But was not willing
 To set my life in order
 To embark upon the pathway
 That would lead me
 To what I really wanted
 You gave me desires
 Long dormant
 To succeed
 You opened doors
 Long closed
 But

My past returns to haunt
 And I must wonder
 If I will return to what I was
 The ghosts of yesterday
 Dance beyond my outstretched arms
 Reminding me of
 Tears
 Sorrow
 Fears

I have come too far to turn back now
 I will not trade
 Happiness for sadness
 Joy for sorrow
 I feel alive for the first time
 Each morning promises excitement
 A flower exhibits beauty not seen before
 A bird warbles a song no ears have ever heard

You have created this magic
 Your love has given birth to a new entity
 But you must not fear the changes
 Do not become concerned
 That these changes are but a facade
 They are real
 And will continue
 I will not return to the darkness of
 Yesterday
 The changes are forever

I Know it Hurts

I know it hurts
To want something you
May not ever possess
Or find someone
Who satisfies
Each and every need
An answer to a dream
But
Haunted by the past
You
Turn away
So much easier to inhabit
Familiar surroundings
Like comfortable shoes
That serve no useful purpose
Other than a trusted friend
I represent the
Unknown
Perhaps a better
But an unfamiliar
Sphere
How nice it is to just exist
Within the confines of
Our own fears
Never venturing from often travelled
Paths
Returning to the same point
Like clockwork
You see what you need
And want
But cannot separate
The past
And present
How sad it is
To be so close
But unable to take the final
Step
On judgement day
What will be your reward
I do not think it will be too impressive
Our Father does not give
Trophies
For only the races we want to enter
He expects us to do our best
In all events

We don't have a chance to specialize
To insure that we will win at least one
Blue ribbon
I know it hurts
To want someone you
May never have
I know
Because
I hurt
Too

Next Step

Into my world she swept
And with her smile
Brought life to dreams long dead

On creaking hinges
Opened wide the doors to love
We gaily laughed
And planned for years to come

Within her arms
I realized that I could love

The doubts and fears had vanished
As a morning mist burned off
By the rising sun

But it was not to be
The dreams departed

Our love began to die
I tried to bring it back
By being what I thought
She wanted

Like Icarus
I felt my wings melting
Hope dwindling
And now the fire is but a smouldering ember
Without fuel
It could not continue
But I will press on
I will find the faith to go forward
I will not stumble