

To Those Whom I Love And Those Who Love Me

When I am gone, release me, let me go
I have so many things to see and do
You must not tie yourself to me with tears
Be happy that I have had so many years
I gave you my love, you can only guess
How much you gave me in happiness
I thank you for the love each has shown
But now it is time I travelled on alone
So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must
Then let your grief be comforted by trust
It is only for a while that we must part
So bless the memories in your heart
I will not be far away, for life goes on
So if you need me, call and I will come
Though you cannot see or touch me, I will be near
And if you listen with your heart, you will hear
All of my love around you soft and clear
Then, when you must come this way alone
I will greet you with a smile and welcome you home.

Life and Death

Birth is a beginning, and death, a destination.
But life? Life is a journey: a going, a growing...
From stage to stage
From childhood to maturity
And youth to age.
From innocence to awareness, and ignorance to knowing;
From foolishness to discretion, and then perhaps, to wisdom.
From weakness to strength, or strength to weakness..
And, often, back again.
Life is a journey: a going, a growing...
From health to sickness and back we pray, to health again.
From offense to forgiveness,
From loneliness to love,
From joy to gratitude,
From pain to compassion,
And grief to understanding.
Yes, life is a journey: a going, a growing...
From fear to faith.
From defeat to defeat to defeat
Until, looking backward or ahead,
***We see that victory lies not as some high place along the way,
But in having made the journey, stage by stage.***
A sacred pilgrimage.
Birth is a beginning and death a destination.
But life is a journey, A sacred pilgrimage
Made stage by stage
To life everlasting.

The Final Flight

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard his call,
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the end of the day.
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah, yes, these things too I will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My Life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one' touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.

Author: Unknown

Love Lives On

Those we love remain with us for love itself lives on
And cherished memories never fade because a loved one's gone.
Those we love can never be more than a thought apart,
As long as there is memory, they'll live on in the heart.

Author: -Mary Alice Ramish-

I Am Not There

Do not stand at my grave and weep
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet white doves in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there.
I did not die.

The White Chariot

During your journey on your final flight home.
White wings will carry you and you will be flown.
To the pearly gates of Heaven, where they will usher you in.
To the feet of your Lord, your Saviour, and your friend.
He will hold you in his arms and the angels will sing.
As another one of His children is delivered by white wings.

Author: Julie Johnson

Goodbye

The church is full of people who have come to say goodbye
But no one wants to see you go
And we're all left asking why?
In our pain and tears we share a heartache that cannot heal
But in our minds we keep our memories that none can ever steal.
We all can feel your hand in ours
And see your loving face
You haven't gone, I feel you here
A love I can't replace.
You meant so much to each of us
In our hearts you'll always be
I hope you knew how precious you were
To them, to us, to me.

Letter from Heaven

To my dearest family, some things I'd like to say.
But first of all, to let you know, that I arrived okay.
I'm writing this from heaven. Here I dwell with God above.
There are no more tears of sadness, just eternal love.
Please do not be unhappy, just because I'm out of sight.
Remember that I'm with you every morning, noon and night.
That day I had to leave you, when my life on earth was through.
God was there to greet me, and said He "I welcome you."
It's good to have you back again, you were missed while you were gone.
As for your dearest family...They'll be here later on.
The time I chose to bring **you** here was in accordance with my plan.
And then He gave me a list of things that he wished for me to do.
And foremost on the list? Was to watch and care for you.
So when you close your eyes and rest, the day's chores put to flight.
God and I are closest to you....in the middle of the night.
When you think of my life on earth, and all those loving years.
Because you are only human, they are bound to bring you tears.
But do not be afraid to cry; it does relieve the pain.
Remember there would be no flowers, unless there was some rain.
I wish that I could tell you all that God has planned.
But if I were to tell you, you wouldn't understand.
But one thing is for certain, though my life on earth is o'er.
I'm closer to you now, than I ever was before.
There are rocky roads ahead of you and many hills to climb
But together we can do it, by taking one day at a time.
It was always my philosophy and I'd like it for you, too
That as you give unto the world, the world will give to you.
So, if you can help somebody who's in sorrow and pain
Then you can say to God at night, "My day was not in vain."
And now I am contented... that my life was worthwhile.
Knowing as I passed along, I made somebody smile.
So if you meet somebody who is sad and feeling low
Just lend a hand to pick them up, as on your way you go.
When you're walking down the street, and you've got me on your mind
Always know I'm walking only a half a step behind
And when it's time for you to go, from that body to be free.
Remember: you're not **going**...you're **coming** here to me.

Author: Ruth Ann Mahaffey

I'll lend you this little child ..
I'll lend you, for a little while, a child of mine, God said
For you to love the while he lives
And mourn for when he's dead
It may be six or seven years, or forty two or three
But will you, 'til I call him back, take care of him for Me?
He'll bring his ways to gladden you, and should his stay be brief
You'll always have his memories as a solace for your grief.
I cannot promise he will stay
As all from earth return
But there are lessons taught below that I want you all to learn
I've looked this whole world over in My search for students true
And from the folks that crown life's lane, I have chosen you
Now will you give him all your love, nor think your labor vain
Nor hate Me when I come to take this lent child back again?
I fancied that I heard them say, "Dear Lord Thy Will be done"
For all the joys Thy child will bring, the risk of grief we'll run.
We'll shelter him with tenderness, we'll love him while we may
And just for having loved him at all
Forever grateful stay.

That Man is a success
who has lived well,
laughed often and loved much;
who has gained the respect of intelligent men and women
and the love of children;
who has filled his niche and accomplished his task;
who leaves the world better than he found it,
who has never lacked appreciation of Earth's beauty
or failed to express it;
who looked for the best in others,
and gave the best he had