

**IN
MEMORIAL**



**A Special Anthology
of
Upliftment**

(2011)

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INTRODUCTION

The following wonderful words have been received from many sources,
and I hope that they will help you as they have helped me.

Many grateful thanks are given to all the wonderful writers
of these very special words...

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LOVE NEVER DISAPPEARS

Love never disappears for death is a non-event.
I have merely retired to the room next door.
You and I are the same; what we were for each other, we still are.
Speak to me as you always have, do not use a different tone, do not be sad.
Continue to laugh at what made us laugh.
Smile and think of me.
Life means what it has always meant.
The link is not severed.
Why should I be out of your soul if I am out of your sight?
I will wait for you, I am not here, but just on the other side of this path.
You see, all is well.

(*St. Augustine*)

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IF I KNEW

If I knew it would be the last time
That I'd see you fall asleep,
I would tuck you in more tightly
and pray the Lord, your soul to keep.

If I knew it would be the last time
that I see you walk out the door,
I would give you a hug and kiss
and call you back for one more.

If I knew it would be the last time
I'd hear your voice lifted up in praise,
I would video tape each action and word,
so I could play them back day after day.

If I knew it would be the last time,
I could spare an extra minute to stop and say "I love you,"
instead of assuming you would KNOW I do.

If I knew it would be the last time
I would be there to share your day,
well I'm sure you'll have so many more,
so I can let just this one slip away.

For surely there's always tomorrow
to make up for an oversight,
and we always get a second chance
to make everything just right.

There will always be another day to say "I love you,"
And certainly there's another chance to say our "Anything I can do?"
But just in case I might be wrong and today is all I get,
I'd like to say how much I love you and I hope we never forget.

Tomorrow is not promised to anyone, young or old alike,
And today may be the last chance
you get to hold your loved one tight.
So if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today?

For if tomorrow never comes, you'll surely regret the day,
That you didn't take that extra time for a smile, a hug, or a kiss
and you were too busy to grant someone, what turned out to be their one last wish.

So hold your loved ones close today, and whisper in their ear,
Tell them how much you love them and that you'll always hold them dear
Take time to say "I'm sorry," "Please forgive me," "Thank you," or "It's okay."
And if tomorrow never comes, you'll have no regrets about today.

(Unknown)

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TEARS

If tears could build a stairway,
And memories a lane,
I'd walk right up to Heaven
and bring you home again.

No farewell words were spoken
No time to say goodbye
You were gone before I knew it,
And only God knows why.

My heart still aches in sadness
And secret tears still flow,
What it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.

(Unknown)

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF MY GRANDFATHER

If tears could build a stairway,
And memories were a lane.
I would walk right up to heaven,
To bring you home again.

No farewell words were spoken,
No time to say good-bye.
You were gone before I knew it,
And only God knows why.

My heart still aches in sadness,
And secret tears still flow.
What it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.

You and angels around God's happy throne,
I would have held you closer if only I had known.

(Unknown)

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WHEN TOMORROW STARTS WITHOUT ME

When tomorrow starts without me,
And I'm not there to see;
If the sun should rise and find your eyes,
All filled with tears for me;
I wish so much you wouldn't cry,
The way you did today,
While thinking of the many things,
We didn't get to say.

I know how much you love me,
As much as I love you,
And each time that you think of me,
I know you'll miss me too;
But when tomorrow starts without me,
Please try to understand,
That an angel came and called my name,
And took me by the hand,
And said my place was ready,
In heaven far above,
And that I'd have to leave behind,
All those I dearly love.

But as I turned to walk away,
A tear fell from my eye,
For all life, I'd always thought,
I didn't want to die.
I had so much to live for,
So much yet to do,
It seemed almost impossible,
That I was leaving you.
I thought of all the yesterdays,
The good ones and the bad,
I thought of all the love we shared,
And all the fun we had.

If I could relive yesterday,
Just even for awhile,
I'd say goodbye and kiss you
And maybe see you smile.
But then I fully realized,
That this could never be,
For emptiness and memories,
Would take the place of me.

And when I thought of worldly things,
I might miss come tomorrow,
I thought of you, and when I did,
My heart was filled with sorrow.
But when I walked through heaven's gates,
I felt so much at home.
When god looked down and smiled at me,
From his great golden throne,
He said, "This is eternity,
And all I've promised you."

Today for life on earth is past,
But here it starts anew.
I promise no tomorrow,
But today will always last,
And since each day's the same day,
There's no longing for the past.

But you have been so faithful,
So trusting and so true.
Though there were times you did some things,
You knew you shouldn't do.
But you have been forgiven
And now at last you're free.
So won't you take my hand,
And share my life with me?

So when tomorrow starts without me,
Don't think we're far apart,
For every time you think of me,
I'm right here, in your heart.

(David Romano)

[Written for his wife who died a few years ago]

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SONG OF A DYING INFANT

I am gently dying.
No need to cry.
No need to say good bye.
I go in peace, into a sky of butterflies and tiny golden birds that never cease to sing.
I will take wing.
Softly.

(© Sally Plumb, England)

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ANGEL'S CALL

An angel in a robe of white
Came to me as I slept last night.
She smiled and whispered in my ear,
"It's time for you to come, my dear."

"Though time was short since you were born,
You've earned the crown without the thorns.
God knows the sweetness of your soul.
Your spirit and heart are pure and whole."

I asked if I could say goodbye,
To Mom and Dad who were nearby.
The angel smiled, and said with a nod,
"I'm sure that will be ok with God."

Did you feel my kiss goodbye,
And the tears that fell from my eyes?
Have trust in God, though I must go.
Just like me, He loves you so.

He will comfort, and hold your hand,
And help you so you'll understand.
And when your heavenly call comes too,
With outstretched arms I'll come to you.

(© Ron Tranmer)

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THINKING OF YOU WITH LOVE

We thought of you with love today,
But that is nothing new.
We thought about you yesterday,
And days before that too.
We think of you in silence,
We often speak your name.
All we have are memories,
And your picture in a frame.
Your memory is our keepsake,
With which we will never part.
God has you in His keeping,
We have you in our hearts.
A million times we've wanted you.
A million times we cried.
If love could only have saved you,
You never would have died.
It broke our hearts to lose you.
But you didn't go alone.
For a part of us went with you...
The day God called you Home.

(Unknown)

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TO OUR YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS

Born the 25th of July

We love you and miss you,
Your Dad, brother, and I.

Happy 3rd Birthday, Michelle,
We're so sorry you're not here.
We always thought we'd see you
Grow another year.

We feel your presence daily,
Though you're not here right now.
And though we can't see you,
We know you see us somehow.

And you want us to be happy
And to remember you with a smile,
And to tell us that you'll see us
In just a little while.

In the meantime, our sweet girl,
Please know how much you're loved.
We miss you more than ever,
But keep trusting our God above.

And so we celebrate you, Michelle--
You're forever in our hearts and prayers.
You're our little darling so many love so well,
Who now runs up and down Heaven's golden stairs!

With love from Mommy, Daddy, and Austin
We love you and miss you, Big Girl!

(© Kristy Turner)

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OH MOTHER, MY MOTHER

I touch your tears,
Invisible fingers soothing your skin
I know you think of me so often
In the day, in the night, in your dreams
Going into an empty nursery
Knowing I'll never be there
But I am...in your heart, in your soul,
I shall always be
For you gave so unselfishly of yourself
Inside of you, you created
Such a world for me
A world of laughter, of love
Of sadness, of sorrow
Every emotion people come to know
You shared with me.
And even though I may never feel your arms around me
I felt your heart beating,
Like a lullaby, singing me to sleep.
And your spirit giving me a safe haven
Already protecting me, nurturing me
Preparing me for things to come
But sometimes the journey of life pulls souls apart
And yes, I had to go on to another place.
I wish I could stay
I wish this was a decision I could make
And I know you do too.

Know this, wherever you are:
I will always remember
That yours was the first love
The first joy, the first soul
I will ever know
You gave me the courage to
Go on in my journey
I hope I can do the same for you
Your heart beat will always call me to you.

Love, your child

(Theresa Cochrane)
(© Growing Family, Inc.)

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SOMEONE IS MISSING

Someone is missing from our dinner table,
From our bedroom and our home.
Someone is missing from holiday celebrations,
Family vacations and everywhere in between.
Someone is missing from our lives,
Our littlest one is gone.
He will not have birthday parties, graduations, or celebrations.
We will miss him throughout eternity
And our family will never be complete.
Someone is missing, yet we go on.
Our lives are touched by him.
Changed forever by his brief existence.
His memory we keep alive.
He lives only in our hearts and minds,
We were blessed by his short life.
Our love for him forever strong.
Even though...someone will always be...MISSING.

(D Lutz)

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A MOTHER'S DAY ODE

I am your mother, but you, my child, I cannot hold.
It'll get easier with time, or so I'm told.
People may forget that I am your mother.
I'm part of a secret club we only share with one another.
But that doesn't diminish my love for you.
I think of you the whole day through.
I wonder what you're doing, my Precious Little One.
We are connected by an Infinite bond which cannot come undone.
I will not let Death tear us apart.
I promise to always keep you alive in my heart.

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MY SPECIAL GIFT

*For Jaden Marquee Lothridge
11-03-04 to 01-25-06*

You came in a hurry,
Way too soon.
My special gift.

Your life was short,
But you taught me so much.
It isn't fair,
I had to let you go.
You were my special gift from God.

I miss you everyday
Not a minute goes by,
That I don't think of you.
My special gift.

So many memories we made together,
I will cherish you forever.
My special gift from God.

I can't wait til the day
We will be reunited
I will hold you forever.
I love you, always.
My special gift from God.

(© Nicole Lothridge)

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TO MY KYLEE

My beautiful baby girl, you will always be in my heart and mind.
Mommy will love you until the end of time.
My heart has an empty space
Because I can't see your beautiful face

Your sandy blonde hair was soft and fine
When I looked at you, there was no denying you were mine
I know you would have loved to dance
If only we would have had the chance

Every day I look for a sign that you are around
Like the soft whisper of a butterfly circling round
The other day I saw a rainbow in the sky
Maybe it was your way of saying Hi

Every day I shed a tear
Wishing that you were here
Until we meet in Heaven above.
Just know I am sending you my love.

(© by Melodie for my daughter, Kylee who was stillborn at 37 weeks on March 12, 2006)

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IN YOUR HEART

Please mommy, don't cry, do not be sad.
Treasure the time however short we had.
I miss you too, but I can feel your love.
Even up here flying, like a little dove.

I know it seems scary, and you feel all alone.
No one can ever replace me, I was your own.
Your sadness means I was loved every day.
Though you can't see me, beside you I lay.

It takes so much courage, for you to go on.
I know our time together, wasn't very long.
But you now will be stronger for knowing me.
It will be okay someday mommy, you will soon see.

In the times that are hard, remember I am here.
Never far from you watching; always very near.
It isn't fair we have to live so far away.
But don't worry; I hear everything that you say.

I am with you with every step that you take.
Sending reminders I love you, for your sake.
I grew in your womb but then slipped away.
Instead now forever in your heart I will stay.

(© Kerri-Anne Hinds)

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THE COST OF FREEDOM

He died serving our country,
In a land far away.
He gave his life for freedom.
They buried him today.

He loved family more than life,
And had to do what's right.
To protect them and his country,
He joined in the fight.

Next time you see a soldier,
Don't just pass him by.
Thank him for his service.
He might be next to die.

How great the cost of freedom.
How brave those who defend.
Protect them Lord, that they may
Safely come back home again.

(© Ron Tranmer)

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DEAR MOM

Dear Mom,
It's been many years since you passed,
23 to be exact,
That you left this world for a better,
Still I sense you in every act.

Your birthday is nearing closer,
On the day before Christ's birth,
I wish I could see you in person,
But your presence is not of this earth.

Still I hear you when you speak,
Feel you near me as my guide,
The sound of my very heartbeat,
Reminds me you're at my side.

So I wish you a Happy Birthday,
A birthday of your rebirth,
As you sit at the foot of God,
Ensuring my peace on earth.

Love you and miss you
Your Son,
Paul

*In Memory of Margaret Marie Marusich Hubbell
12/24/1929 - 08/24/1987*

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WITHOUT YOU

It's different here without you.
It's as if there is no sun.
Darkness now surrounds me.
My world seems so undone.

You were my life, my everything,
But now sweetheart you've gone.
Somehow I must find faith in God
And let my life go on.

They say time mends a broken heart.
If true, time is my friend.
I'll count the days until the time
You're in my arms again.

(© Ron Tranmer)

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TREASURED MOMENTS

I treasure every moment
You spent in life with me.
I hoped to have you longer,
But it's not meant to be.

You left this world so suddenly.
I think my heart went too.
I feel so lost and lonely,
And I cry from missing you.

I know you're in a better place.
I know you're happy there.
I know one day I'll join you,
But the wait is hard to bear.

My heart feels like it's breaking
As I try to carry on.
You were my life, my everything,
But now sweetheart, you've gone.

I'll count the years until the time
I join you there above.
Where then we'll be, eternally,
Together again my love.

(© Ron Tranmer)

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A PERFECT WORLD

In a perfect world,
Death would never be.
Love would be forever,
And last eternally.

In a perfect world,
You'd still be by our side,
Lighting up our happy lives.
You never would have died.

In a perfect world,
Sadness would not be found.
Love and life, and happiness
Forever would abound.

Perhaps that perfect world
Awaits us when we die.
A world where eternal bliss
is found in heaven's sky.

We'll cling to faith and hope,
For God is a God of love,
And in His time we'll join you
In a perfect world above.

(© Ron Tranmer)

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HEY GRANDPA CHARLIE

When I close my eyes, I think of you
And now I know you're up there in the sky
That's why it's so blue
But you should know that if I cry
It's because I love you

We all know that you are gone
But really you're just being born
Because from here to thereon
You are being recreated in heaven
I promise they will take good care of you and
I will have it be known of what I've sworn
Because I love you

The angels will take care of you
But you will take care of him, her, and me
As you watch our daily lives and help us through
That's just how it will be
And we will always be thinking about you
Because we love you

You're not just a memory
You're a spirit inside all of us
So vibrantly alive
And you will continue to thrive
Until we meet again in that place that seems so distant
But I know it's existent
Because God loves us

You fought your fight
You won your battles
But this time God has other plans to make it all right
So just follow that bright light
And it will all be okay because
You are just saving us a seat
Because you love us

Your Granddaughter,

River

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR PRECIOUS BROTHER ROBBY

Brother, I think about you all the time,
And wonderful memories you left behind
Your great intentions and precious heart,
And I know at the end of the day,
We are very close and not far apart

Brother, although we are separated through time
And space our souls will connect in another place,
You will be the one to guide me in,
And to comfort me in the end.
With your soul's progression and
High level of spirituality,
Your goodness and kindness
Will be my reality.

Brother, I saw a vision
That was revealed to me
With God's permission,
You were soaring with Angels
And protected by the almighty's hand,
This opened up to me
In an unfamiliar land.

Brother, the spirit world
Is a glorious place,
And I see you filled with joy, love
Happiness and grace.
So brother, until we meet again
I will love you forever and
Always to the end.

(Lisa Franklin)

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YOUR ABSENCE

Your absence has left me full of endless days.
Like the much dreaded heat and the Eastern Shore haze.

The toying, the strings; on this ride, I remain.
Leaves me feeling at times, that I'm going insane.

It's the ride from Hell, where I feel I will stay.
But, it was all in the cards and to Jesus, I pray.

That this strength and this grace that so few possess.
Will help carry me through this difficult process.

The love that we have is boundless and strong.
And you are still by my side where you will always belong.

Your wisdom is by far the most one could imagine.
For your keen eye could always see beyond the horizon.

You taught us all how to love and be happy.
It doesn't take much, live it simple, live it free!

We're all here for a while, or a lifetime, a season.
And we both know Everything Happens For a Reason.

I feel that in time, this heartache will subside.
Until then, my love, just know of the pride.

That you filled my life with while you were still here.
And that in my heart, I will always hold you dear.

I pray to God and ask him to see me through.
These dreamless nights and endless days, until again, I can be with you.

(Marcy Harper)

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ADRIAN

On the 2nd of June 2010 you took your life
You could no longer cope with all the strife
Although there was help and support for you
You chose to do what you did do

For many years you came to me
When your way in life you could not see
I supported you when things got tough
And your path in life felt very rough

No matter what your troubles were
I was always your sword and armour
I protected you no matter what
Tell me son, had you forgot?

Although sometimes we fought a lot
You were my son; I never forgot
I was always there when you needed me
When life for you was not so easy

When you felt such deep despair
Did you think no one would care
Did you think no one would heed
Or turn their backs in your time of need

You were wrong my son, we loved you so
Don't say to me you did not know
We were there, you should have said
And to your side we would have tread

Your problems you should have shared
We would have helped because we cared
We would have helped if we had known
But your fears or worries were never shown

To the outside world you wore a mask
Which we now know was a farce
You cracked your jokes, you gave a grin
Belying the sadness that was within

Why oh why did you fail to see
All you had to do was contact me
As always I was there for you
And would have come to your rescue

Instead Adrian you chose to die
And left me here to sit and cry
The pain I feel is hard to bear
And in my mind I see you there

I feel your fear and your despair
As you make efforts to prepare
To leave this life you so did love
And fly to clouds up above

Be at peace my lovely son
Your spiritual life has just begun
There will be a time when we meet again
Meanwhile my son, I'll say Amen

(Ann Bedford)

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GRANDPA

Oh you fought to the end of your devastating battle.
My heart aches that you are no longer here with us today.
Every day I look outside and see the birds fly beneath the clouds,
I believe it's the path to heaven.
I miss you grandpa.
Life's a journey.
Life's a battle.
Nobody ever said life was going to be easy.
Grandpa you don't know,
How much I wish you were here with us today.
I don't really know much about you,
But I heard so much.
You were a brave man you fought to the end.
I love you grandpa.

Your granddaughter Alyssa

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OH HOW I MISS U

Oh how I miss u
Wish you could come back to
A time we both knew
Just me and you
Oh how I wish you knew how much me and your baby need you
Want to greet daddy when he comes through
The door, a smiling face I will see no more
One your daughter never had a chance to adore
Oh how I wish you could come home
Just a hug could make me feel like I was never alone
How your death has me blown
Oh how I wish you knew how nothing in my life will ever be the same
The thought of hearing your name
And all the great memories it brings
Oh how I wish u knew how bad I want to be beside you
Yes I realize how hard you tried to provide
How I wish you knew how long this poem could go on
So much I miss
But God has blessed me with our baby to hold and kiss.
I know your daughter will be so amazing like you and she is truly your dream come true.
Forever and ever Mr Dorsey we love you.

(Clara Thompson)

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NO REGRETS

Although I hid behind my smile
Those that love me saw straight through
That where once loves resides
There is no longer you

Not long before you left
You opened your eyes in such sorrow
In disbelief you cried for me
For the time I had to borrow

I heard my guides my darling
As I have always done
And brought you to your fruition
So your song was sung

In the mirror I saw you
I told you I would understand
And with my heart still aching
Your Angel took you by the hand

I know you would have waited
Until the end of time
But I could not leave you
In the place between heaven and mine

For true love is to let go
So I put my faith in you
For you can see beyond the light
There is more for me to do

You send me rainbows to remind me
That the storms will always clear
That you are there beside me
Therefore there is nothing I should fear

I know I haven't lost you
You're just in a different space
When I rest my head you hold my hand
And place a tender kiss on my face

You have to keep reminding me
That we will meet again
Although this only just helps
To lessen all the pain

The many times that we were one
Only now I know why
So you would live on in my heart and all I do
In this you never die

Once our heart did beat as one
Now mine beats for you
To show the world just who we are
And continue what we do

I know you stroke my hair
And hold me in the night
It's your smile I long to see
And your eyes that are out of sight

I got your message loud and clear
The universe is where it should be
For time waits for no one soul
Forget not we are bound for eternity

As the sun will always rise
So the sun shall set
To my knight in shining armour
Your Princess you have met

No regrets fill my past
That you know is true
For I love you with all my heart
And I know you love me too....

(Gordana)

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HOW OFTEN I THINK OF YOU

How often I think of you
It's surprising how often I think of you
Turn to speak to you
And realize you're not right there as I expect you to be
I guess I hold you so close in thought that it's hard.

To understand sometimes that your aren't close in person
But I wanted to let you know
I'm thinking of you
And wishing I could talk
And just be together a while
YOU'RE REALLY MISSED!

(Ebony Myers)

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ON THIS DAY

On this day, a year ago, your life stared coming to an end
A door kicked in, you being brutally beaten
My prayers were all I could send

Greed is the root of all evil
Because it made them come to steal
But when finding you home, beating you to death, no feelings they did feel

You laid there for hours, in puddles of your own blood
In a coma.
When she found you, tears from her eyes did flood

Once at the hospital, only one question stood
And it seemed like a miracle,
Survive? They said you would

After about a week of silence,
In a coma, No moving or talking at all,
Your eyes opened, as if for the first time,
And happy tears from my eyes did fall

Recovery was in your future
And of course we all were happy to hear,
You could be moved to a recovery center
And I was glad and removed of fear

One day I got picked up from school
But I could not bathe in joy for long,
Something was just not right,
And my dad told me you were gone

We all dwelled in the sorrow,
A blood clot suddenly had gone to your chest
All available doctors rushed in to help,
But you were now forever at rest

Cry, that's all I could do
My world had fallen apart
The best uncle anyone could ever have is gone,
And you are always in my heart

I'll never know a person kinder,
Why did you have to die
Such an innocent, loved person,
I always ask why

Why did this happen to you,
I will never ever know
I search everywhere for an answer
But have no idea why you had to go

How's heaven?
I know you are there; it's a thing I know for sure
It gives me a feeling of comfort
But my grief will never cure

I miss you all the time,
But I know you are here with me
I'm pretty sure you are watching,
Even thought, you, I can't see

The world can be a ruthless place,
This thought I can't enough exhaust
That sometimes with no meaning,
The most important person is lost

I love you so much,
I know you're living on
I will always think about you,
The best uncle that now is gone

(Unknown)

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I WISH

I wish you hadn't died, but you did.
You, who taught me how to live,
Who taught me what safety was
And who showed me how to love.

I wish you hadn't had to die...
You could be here with me now,
Talking, laughing, crying with me,
Sharing everything life throws our way,
Enjoying each other.

You showed me what love is,
Your affection never dimmed.
You modelled generosity,
Your spirit lives on...
And my heart remembers.

You took so damned long to die
And I was so weary of it,
But my grief has never let up.
I miss you every day,
Because you left me behind.

There isn't a day that I don't think about you,
That I don't wonder where you are,
Or how you would look if you were here?

Would your tastes be the same, all these years on?
Would you still enjoy life the same way you did,
Or would age and pain have changed you,
The way they have changed me?

I wish you hadn't died when you did.
I love you beyond measure.
If you were here, this aching might leave me,
I might have a hand to hold,
The real presence of a love so strong, so powerful
That death cannot separate, nor separation dilute.

You may be lost to me in this world,
But you are always with me.
I find you in the things that even death cannot steal.

No, my dearest one,
Your memory will not lie down and be forgotten -
And I will never lie down and forget.

Laura Franchi
(10/6/1997)

--()--

DEAR DADDY,

IT'S JUST LIKE YOU DADDY TO HAVE LOVED ME AND MOMMY SO, AND I'M SO SORRY
DADDY THAT I HAD TO GO. GOD MADE THE STRENGTH OF A MOUNTAIN, THE MAJESTIES
OF THE TREE, HE MADE THE SUN SHINE DADDY AND HE GAVE YOU AND MOMMY ME.

THERE WAS NO NEED FOR ME TO STAY DADDY, FOR I ALREADY KNEW WHAT A WONDERFUL FATHER YOU ARE THE DAY GOD GAVE ME TO YOU. YOU LOOKED AT ME AND SMILED AND IF MY HEART HAD A WINDOW DADDY YOU WOULD'VE SEEN ME SMILE TOO.

AN ANGEL CAME TO VISIT ME ON THAT 9TH AUGUST DAY, SHE SAID IT WAS TIME TO GO. DADDY I'M SO SORRY I COULDN'T STAY. BUT IM SITTING HERE WITH JESUS NOW AND IT'S SUCH A PLEASANT PLACE. DADDY THERE'S NOT EVEN ONE TEAR ON ANYBODY'S FACE.

ME AND JESUS WATCHES YOU DADDY EACH DAY AND NIGHT, HE SAY'S I'LL HAVE TO BE PATIENT DADDY UNTIL YOU TAKE YOUR FLIGHT. I'LL NEVER FORGET THE FIRST TIME YOU HELD ME, WHEN I FELT YOUR WARM EMBRACE, AND WHEN I SAW THE LOOK UPON YOUR FACE. I KNEW I WAS IN THE ARMS OF MY DADDY IN A WARM AND SPECIAL PLACE.

THANK YOU DADDY FOR BEING ALL YOU ARE, A KIND AND LOVING FATHER TOO, WHO STUCK BY MY MOMMY WHEN MY DAYS SEEMED SO FEW. THERE THINGS ONLY I KNOW DADDY IN MY MOMMIES HEART, SHE LOVES YOU AND ME DADDY FOR ALL THAT WE ARE.

PLEASE DON'T CRY DADDY WHILE WE ARE APART. JUST REMEMBER THE SHORT 10 DAYS WE SPENT TOGETHER AND PLEASE DADDY KEEP ME IN YOUR HEART.

TODAY I ASK JESUS TO DRY ALL THE TEARS YOU'VE CRIED FOR I SEEN ALL THE PAIN YOU HAVE INSIDE, SO HE GAVE ME THIS PEN THAT I COULD WRITE TO YOU AND SAY THAT I LOVE YOU DADDY AND IM RIGHT HERE WAITING AT THIS PRETTY GATE.

SO KEEP YOUR PATH STRAIGHT AND NARROW DADDY FOR GOD'S WATCHING TOO. AND REMEMBER DADDY I'M WAITING WITH HUGS AND KISSES, DADDY DON'T BE LATE WHATEVER YOU DO.

*IN MEMORY OF BROOKLYN BELCHER
BORN JULY 30, 2009
ANGEL IN WAITING AUGUST 9, 2009*

--()--

DON'T TELL ME...

Don't tell me that you understand, don't tell me that you know,

Don't tell me that I will survive, how I will surely grow.

Don't tell me this is just a test, that I am truly blessed,

That I am chosen for this task, apart from all the rest.

Don't come at me with answers that can only come from me,

Don't tell me how my grief will pass, that I will soon be free.

Don't stand in pious judgment of the bonds I must untie,

Don't tell me how to suffer, don't tell me how to cry.

My life is filled with selfishness, my pain is all I see,

But I need you, I need your love, unconditionally.

Accept me in my ups and downs, I need someone to share,

Just hold my hand and let me cry, and say,

"My friend, I really do care."

(Unknown)

--()--

ANGELS ARE REAL

Where are you my Precious one I long to see your face?

I need to kiss and hold you and never let you go.

I cannot understand why someone so precious had to die.

My heart it has stopped beating I don't feel it anymore.

Why my God did you take my little girl so soon?

Have I done something wrong to deserve this terrible pain?

I know that you have took her back to take her pain away.

Yet I know she did not want to die her time was far too soon.

She fought this terrible disease every single minute of the day

And even when she was in pain she still had time to say

"I Love You All So Very Much"

My anger keeps me going it's the only strength I have.

Knowing that my angel was robbed of everything.

She had everything to Live for 13 Years was not enough.

And so I hope you understand why I sometimes question my faith.

I wake up every morning hoping it was all a bad dream.

Hoping that she'll walk through the door and cuddle me once more.

I know it's my turn now to fight and find the truth.

Why my Precious Daughter should never have left us that day.

You died on Valentine's day making you one very special angel.

And so from now on that day will always be called (Emma's Day).

So every night even though I can't see you, I hold and kiss your picture.

Remember that my love for you is stronger every day.

For every time I lay down on my pillow I know you are next to me .

Your arms wrapped around me wiping away my tears.

(Written For Emma Jane Porter, 19/11/1993-14/2/2007)

--()--

HOW WE SURVIVE

How We Survive

If we are fortunate,
we are given a warning.

If not,
there is only the sudden horror,
the wrench of being torn apart;
of being reminded
that nothing is permanent,
not even the ones we love,
the ones our lives revolve around.

Life is a fragile affair.
We are all dancing
on the edge of a precipice,
a dizzying cliff so high
we can't see the bottom.

One by one,
we lose those we love most
into the dark ravine.

So we must cherish them
without reservation.
Now.
Today.
This minute.
We will lose them
or they will lose us
someday.
This is certain.
There is no time for bickering.
And their loss
will leave a great pit in our hearts;
a pit we struggle to avoid
during the day
and fall into at night.

Some,
unable to accept this loss,
unable to determine
the worth of life without them,
jump into that black pit
spiritually or physically,
hoping to find them there.

And some survive
the shock,
the denial,
the horror,
the bargaining,
the barren, empty aching,
the unanswered prayers,
the sleepless nights
when their breath is crushed
under the weight of silence
and all that it means.

Somehow, some survive all that and,
like a flower opening after a storm,
they slowly begin to remember
the one they lost
in a different way...

The laughter,
the irrepressible spirit,
the generous heart,
the way their smile made them feel,
the encouragement they gave
even as their own dreams were dying.

And in time, they fill the pit
with other memories
the only memories that really matter.

We will still cry.
We will always cry.
But with loving reflection
more than hopeless longing.

And that is how we survive.
That is how the story should end.
That is how they would want it to be.

(Mark Rickerby)

--()--

FATHER'S DAY

When I think of Father's Day
In many ways, it makes me very sad
While you are gone, the holiday is still around
All the cakes, the picnics, the cards, all the things I am missing out of
All my Father's Day favorites have been taken away
I go to the cemetery, and talk to your grave
And I feel so very all alone
I took for granted so many things
So many things I can never do or say
But I'm grateful for the years we had
And I'm proud to say, "You're the best Dad!"

(Tina Manee-Albrecht)

--()--

I AM

I am calm and quiet.
I wonder what is happening.
I hear my Nan singing.
I see her at heavens gates, waiting.
I want my grandmother back.
I am calm and quiet.

I pretend my Nan is still here.
I feel her soft hair.
I touch her hair, and drag my fingers through it.
I worry that she gets lonely.
I cry because she is gone.
I am calm and quiet.

I understand that she is gone.
I say it's hard to believe.
I dream that she is still here.
I try to understand she's not.
I hope I'll see her again.
I am calm and quiet.
I am your granddaughter.

*I wrote this for my grandmother after she passed away on October 7th 2007.
In loving memory of Margaret E Campbell.
1941 - 2007
Writing by: Sydney Jarvis*

--()--

YOU ARE MY FATHER

I will not look at this as a goodbye.

I will not allow the sorrow of this event to destroy me.

I will embrace what you have taught me through the
years and carry that with me.

You have not died. You will forever be a part of my life,
and through me you will forever be a part of my
children's as well. We are your legacy.

I am proud to have had you in their lives.

I hope they inherit your charm, your good nature, and your
charisma. I know with your influence they will grow to
become good men.

You have raised me to the best of your ability
and for that I want to thank you.

Thank you for being kind, thank you for being stronger than

you know, and most of all, thank you for loving us.

You have inspired me to live life to the fullest,
and never back down.

I will not be taken over by the anger and
frustration of your loss.

Instead, I will remember the days when I was young
and you were my hero.

I will see you in my dreams.

There you will forever be healthy and strong.

In time, I hope to embrace your freedom, freedom from the
pain, and freedom from the weight of your illness.

Sorrow is inevitable, but I will face this with the same
courage you did, because I am you, and you are my Father.

Always your daughter, Candice

--()--

TO MY SISTER, FROM HEAVEN.

I just wanted you to know.

That I'll be with you wherever you go.

I've gotten my wings and learned how to fly.

And I'll dry your tears whenever you cry.

Though I've went away and it seems we're apart.

You will forever be my soul and my heart.

The love that we shared will not go astray.

For deep in my heart it will always stay.

You held me close when I was filled with pain.

And your smile gave me sunshine when my life filled with rain.

You guided me when no one else could.

You protected me when no one else would.

We've shared so much that mere words can't express how knowing you has made me feel truly
blessed.

So please dear sister, fret not for me, for now my soul is truly free.

So think of me often, as much as you can.

And I'll always be there to hold your hand.

I'll be your angel and guide you through life.

I'll give you comfort through torment and strife.

So thanks dear sister again and again, thank you always for being my sister and my friend.

(Reginald Bush)

--()--

YESTERDAY

I wish for one more day

Now that you're gone

To thank you

To see your beautiful face one more minute

To be able to call you mom

Now that you're gone

One more meal

One last car ride

One last see you later

Last night I saw you

Wishing that it was real

Not believing that only in my heart

Is where I can see you

It is so hard to realize

That this is now our reality

But you left us in a good place

Together we are all still

Now that you're gone

You will remain in our hearts

Till the day we are together again

*By: Philip
Inspired by a dream*

A dream that should have been real

--()--

NATURE'S WONDERS

Have you ever wondered what makes the wind blow?
Could it be our loved ones blowing us a kiss?

Have you ever wondered what makes the stars shine?
Is it our loved ones keeping watch over us while we sleep?

Have you ever wondered what makes the skies cry?
Could it be our loved ones missing us?

Have you ever wondered what makes the sun shine?
Is it our loved ones giving us a warm hug?

Have you ever wondered what makes the ocean waves come pounding to shore?
Could it be our loved ones wanting to touch us once more?

There are so many of nature's wonders and do we really know why?
Is there a higher power making sure we always remember the loved one we've lost and shall never forget.

(For Brandon from Lisa)

--()--

MY SPIRIT WILL ALWAYS FIND YOURS

In the twilight of my life
when I'm closer to the end
than the beginning
sadness, the pain of learning
the illusions of what I could and should
have been
could and should have done
have all melted away
and I'm left here
with nothing
but the reality of who I am
and here
I've found you once again.

In our embrace we're children
who've walked the journey of discovery
through the darkness to the light
across the lifetimes
where we fought and died
laughed and cried
were mother, father, friend
lover, sister, brother
we've come together
time and time again
and again, and again

In our moment now
that seems so fleeting
we yearn for more time
but we had to find ourselves
before we could recognize each other
Don't love with regret for time lost
we will meet again
and as long as forever
in eternity endures
my spirit will always find yours
again, and again
and again

(David Woods for Janet Woods)

--()--

TO GRANDMA

Grandma, I thought this day would never come,
You were my Hero and you were my mother,
You provided your protection and your guidance,
Not only to me but to so many others,

You always did the best that you could
And you always gave the best,
We will always remember your words,
For we were the ones truly blessed.

We will remember the times you made us laugh,
And the times you made us cry,
We will remember how you lived,
And the look of your caring eyes.

I will miss the touch of your soft hands
And the way they healed my heart,
I will remember your beautiful smile,
And your sense of humor, was a world apart.

We will miss the sound of your voice,
And the directions you always gave,
You'd tell us to always be strong,
And you'd tell us to always to behave,

I will miss the stories you would share,
And the long talks at your kitchen table,
I will miss the happiness you showed,
With every new grandchild you cradled.

Grandma, You will be missed,
But in our hearts you will forever live,
In our time of sorrow and pain,
Memories of your strength we will now relive,

Our hearts may be heavy
And we may shed some tears,
But our spirit rejoices, for you are with God
And now you have nothing to fear,

No more worries, no more sorrows,
No more hurt and no more pain,
In the kingdom of Heaven you now stand,
Our love for you will forever remain.

To our mother, to our sister, to our auntie,
To our friend, and to our dear loved one,
We thank you for your time, for your love, for your lessons,
For your kindness, or your prayers. Now! your job is done.

We LOVE YOU!!!

(*"Dovie" Salaba*)

--()--

DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL

Blonde haired, blue-eyed angel
That's Daddy's little girl
He quickly held her close to him
When she came into this world

With loving hands and a gentle heart
He taught her right from wrong
However, before she knew it
Her Daddy would be gone

For her Daddy was very sick
Even though it was hard to understand
Until that dreadful day in May
When God took him by the hand

Now her Daddy's gone from Earth
And when she calls his name
He doesn't come running to her anymore
Yet she loves him just the same

Daddy's little girl, thankful for her Dad
Has peace in knowing, he's in a good place
Even though she'll miss hearing his voice
And seeing his smiling face

For Daddy's little girl, now out on her own
Has to settle for the memories of the man
And raise his grandsons to know him
The best way that she can

How desperately she'd love to have
Her Daddy here with her
She didn't know how dark the demons
That her Daddy carried were

Daddy's little girl is so lost without him being near
Even though it's hard for her, she comprehends
No matter how much you love someone
One day their time here ends

I'll always be your little girl Daddy
My love for you will never part
For you reside with Jesus now
And forever in my heart

Love always,
Shelly Marie

--()--

IN MEMORY OF OUR DAUGHTER WHO DIED OF BREAST CANCER

by J P

Her eyes were dim and glassy as she gazed into the sky,
She knew she was getting weaker, she knew that she would die.
The Lord wrapped his arms around her and took her by the hand,
He said "Come with Me, my darling, to God's Eternal land.
The years have passed so quickly and still we miss you so,
There are times we can hardly wait 'til it's our time to go.
We know God picks the time and place to take our loved ones home,
But it is so hard to accept the loss when it is one of your very own.
We know others have lost their loved ones, and this we can't explain
And we know it must break God's heart to see his children in such pain.
We cannot judge what happens when tears and questions start,
We only see what is visible, but God sees into the heart.

The last night that we spent with you, you were so weak you could not speak,
But you formed the words "I Love You" as we wiped tears from your frail, thin cheek.
Your dreams didn't get accomplished, you didn't get to raise your kids,
But you left a lasting impression on all you said and did.
You are now our special angel, and as for daughters, we still feel we have four,
Cause you are still a special part of our family, you just don't live with us anymore.

Our smiles try to hide our heartaches and we say we are doing fine,
But to those who have experienced death know how it changes you in time.
Every day we are reminded of the good things that you did,
You cared so much for others, especially unfortunate kids.
Family dinners aren't as luscious without your salads that used to be,
You had that extra little touch to make them special, you see.
The advice and help you gave the kids, you knew just what to say,
And they knew they better listen when you told them to obey.
To some you are forgotten, to others just a dream,
But to us who love and miss you those memories ripple like a stream.
God looked around his garden and saw an empty space,
He then took a look around the earth and saw your suffering face.
He put his arms around you and lifted you to rest,
God's garden must be beautiful, cause He only takes the best.

You tried your best to teach us before you went away,
We now have a better understanding of what you tried to say.
Please always know we love you and no one can take your place,
Tho' many years can come and go your memory will never be erased.
So when each day stats without you, we won't seem so far apart,
Cuz every time we think of you, you will be right here in our heart.
So Jesus if you are listening in your home from up above,
Would you kiss our darling daughter and give her all our love.

--()--

TO NANNY

I love you Nanny,
Please don't cry.
I didn't mean to die,
I tried to stay,
But the Angels came.
I heard them call my name.
I only followed,
I just wanted to see,
If their wings suited me.
It was fun,
I wanted to play,
I didn't know I'd have to stay.
I am really sorry
I have made you sad,
I didn't mean to be so bad.
I want so much,
To be very good.
Like you told me I should.
I wish I knew
Of the Angel dangers,
I was too busy avoiding strangers.
Now you're upset
And it's because of me
If only I could make you see
You'd be so proud
Of how well I fly
I didn't even have to try
A born natural,
Or so I'm told.

Even though I'm not very old.
I've got a job,
And I like it too.
I'm the angel watching over you.
So you see Nanny
Please dry your eyes,
I'm glad I tried those wings for size.

*By H.W.
(January 2006)*

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MY TRUE HOME

Drawn into tangible darkness,
Rushing high speed through a tunnel.
I'm somewhere between two worlds
Spiralling like water through a funnel.

I see a pinpoint of light in the distance,
Growing larger the closer I get.
But for some strange reason I'm not afraid?
And see it not as being a threat.

Entering into a realm so soothing
Of radiant, golden-white light,
Peace and warmth pours over my spirit,
It's so beautifully – beautifully bright.

Moving with the flow of fine silk,
My translucent body glows;
Like thousands of tiny diamonds
They sparkle and superimpose.

A floodgate of knowledge has been opened,
With infinite waves of love;
There's a pageantry of dramatic colors here
That just could never be dreamed of?

I see miraculous mountains of deep blue velvet
And spectacular valleys galore;
A waterfall dazzles with clarity and life,
This Elysian area I'd love to explore!

Drifting next into a garden,
With swaying grass so crisp, cool, and green;
The luminescent flowers pulsate,
Their shades so completely serene;

I hear music playing of harmonic beauty
That rolls like a glassy river.
Enchanting, mystical tones,
That would make any man alive shiver.

Then suddenly, I see someone in the distance,
Coming towards me to reunite.
This whistling persons emanating glow,
Is such a comforting and glorious sight?

When I can finally distinguish who it is,
I realize it's my Grandpap Jack.
He tells me that it's not yet my time,
And that I must now . . . go back.

I could stay an eternity at this divine place
From just these few things that I've been shown;
But I know one great day for sure I'll be back,
Because I believe this is my true home.

*Thanks to the author, Andrew Harley
Till The Dreaming's Done: Poems Crafted For Thinking People (2005)*

--()--

You Always

You always are there when I feel bad,
You always help when times are bad.
You always encourage me when I'm down,
You raised me to never frown.
You always are near when I'm far,
You always are in my heart.

To Mom-Mom Maryann and Pop-Pop Sam

(Bianca)

--()--

I'VE SEEN HER

I've seen my love; I've seen her pass,
She walks with such a grace.
She turned and smiled across at me,
The sun upon her face.

And I could swear I caught the scent,
The fragrance of her hair.
Could I believe - should I believe,
Her spirit blessed me there?

Her eyes so bright, they shone with love,
No pain to cloud them now,
And when she laughed, no line was seen,
Across that perfect brow.

Oh love, if you would only wait,
Beyond the tears and pain,
We'll walk together, hand in hand,
In love,
In peace,
Again.

(David George, August 2005)

--()--

LIGHT A CANDLE

Light a candle for those we mourn.

Into a new life they will be born.

Do not look for them at the gravesite.

They are somewhere else radiating their beautiful light.

They have gone to a new world where there is no darkness, no pain.

Their light and essence will always remain.

Light a candle for those who have left this mortal place.

They are free to travel through time and space.

When we think of them, they are near.

When we sit in a beautiful garden. Their voices we hear.

When we listen to a divine symphony,

We close our eyes, their faces we see.

Light a candle for they have not really gone.

With each flickering flame, in your hearts they will always belong.

(© A.Pell 24/08/2005)

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IN MEMORY OF MY MOTHER, MARY ESTELLE

You were a precious gift from God above,
so much beauty, grace and love.

You touched our hearts in so many ways,
your smile so bright even on the bad days.

You heard God's whisper calling you home,
you didn't want to go and leave us alone.

You loved us so much, you held on tight,
till all the strength was gone and you could no longer fight.

He had called your name twice before,
you knew you couldn't make him wait anymore.

So you gave your hand to God and slowly drifted away,
knowing that with our love we will be together again someday.

(Unknown)

--()--

THE BROKEN CHAIN

We little knew the day that
God was going to call your name,
In life we loved you dearly,
in death we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you,
but in God we put our trust,
In times as difficult as this,
faith is such a must.

You left us peaceful memories,
your love is still our guide,
And though we cannot see you,
you are always at our side.

Our family chain is broken,
and nothing seems the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
the chain will link again.

(Ron Tranmer)

--()--

TO MY DEAREST FAMILY

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
where I dwell with God above
where there's no more tears
or sadness there
is 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 picked me up and hugged me
and He said 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
I need you here so badly
as part of My big plan
there's so much that we have to do
to help our mortal man
Then God gave me a list of things
He wished for me to do
and foremost on that list of mine
is to watch and care for you
And I will be beside you
every day and week and year
and when you're sad

I'm standing there
to wipe away the tear
And when you lie in bed at night
the days 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're 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
of 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 am closer to you now
than I ever was before
And to my very many friends
trust God knows what is best
I'm still not far away from you
I'm just beyond the crest
There are rocky roads ahead of you
and many hills to climb
but together we can do it
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
so the World will give to you
If you can help somebody
who is in sorrow or in pain
then you can say to God at night
my day was not in vain
And now I am contented
that my life it was worthwhile
knowing as I passed along the way
I made somebody smile
So if you meet somebody
who is down and feeling low
just lend a hand to pick him up
as on your way you go
When you are walking
down the street
and you've got me on your mind
I'm walking in your footsteps
only half a step behind
And when you feel the gentle breeze
or the wind upon your face
that's me giving you a great big hug
or just a soft embrace
And when it's time for you to go
from that body to be free
remember you're not going
you are coming here to me
And I will always love you

from that land way up above
Will be in touch again soon
P.S. God sends His Love

(Unknown)

--()--

TO THOSE I LOVE

If I should ever leave you whom I love
To go along the Silent Way, grieve not,
Nor speak of me with tears, but laugh and talk
Of me as if I were beside you there.
(I'd come-I'd come, could I but find a way!
But would not tears and grief be barriers?)
And when you hear a song or see a bird
I loved, please do not let the thought of me
Be sad... For I am loving you just as
I always have... You were so good, to me!
There are so many things I wanted still
To do--- so many things to say to you...
Remember that I did not fear... It was
Just leaving you that was so hard to face...
We cannot see Beyond... But this I know:
I loved you so - 'twas heaven here with you!

(Ardis Marletta)

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AN OLD LADY'S POEM

What do you see, nurses, what do you see?
What are you thinking when you're looking at me?
A crabby old woman, not very wise,
Uncertain of habit, with faraway eyes?
Who dribbles her food and makes no reply
When you say in a loud voice, "I do wish you'd try!"
Who seems not to notice the things that you do,
And forever is losing a stocking or shoe...
Who, resisting or not, lets you do as you will,
With bathing and feeding, the long day to fill...
Is that what you're thinking? Is that what you see?
Then open your eyes, nurse; you're not looking at me.
I'll tell you who I am as I sit here so still,
As I do at your bidding, as I eat at your swill.

I'm a small child of ten...with a father and mother,
Brothers and sisters, who love one another.
A young girl of sixteen, with wings on her feet,
Dreaming that soon now a lover she'll meet.
A bride soon at twenty -- my heart gives a leap,
Remembering the vows that I promised to keep.
At twenty-five now, I have young of my own,
Who need me to guide and a secure happy home.
A woman of thirty, my young now grown fast,
Bound to each other with ties that should last.
At forty, my young sons have grown and are gone,
But my man's beside me to see I don't mourn.
At fifty once more, babies play round my knee,
Again we know children, my loved one and me.
Dark days are upon me, my husband is dead;
I look at the future, I shudder with dread.
For my young are all rearing young of their own,
And I think of the years and the love that I've known.
I'm now an old woman... and nature is cruel;
'Tis jest to make old age look like a fool.
The body, it crumbles, grace and vigor depart,
There is now a stone where I once had a heart.
But inside this old carcass a young girl still dwells,
And now and again my battered heart swells.
I remember the joys, I remember the pain,
And I'm loving and living life over again.
I think of the yearsall too few, gone too fast,
And accept the stark fact that nothing can last.
So open your eyes, nurses, open and see...
Not a crabby old woman; look closer... see ME!!

(Unknown)

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ANGELS

When you were born, an angel smiled,
As you became a child, an angel sat on your shoulder
When you became an adult, an angel held your hand
As you grew old, an angel walked down the road with you,
And, when you died, another angel got their wings.

(Unknown)

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