Rosellient Heart

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For RBH

You inspired me to listen to my inner self and to find greater meaning in life. Thank you.

Introduction

This book tells the story of an uncommon love between two hearts miles apart but together in spirit. The poems recount the passion and the longing felt between them over the years – from tentative beginnings to heartfelt closeness. It sounds like the stuff of fiction, but it was a time that fiction can only imitate. No wonder this book reads like an unbelievable tale, the poems linked together tell a story of friendship, love and longing that has the power to haunt.

Yeats, the famous Irish poet, wrote: "*we make out of the quarrel with others rhetoric, but of the quarrel with ourselves, poetry.*" From the quarrel within me came these poems.

To writers and poets, the inspiration to write can come from many different sources. For me, the inspiration for these poems came from a single source. A friend who listened and thereby inspired my soul to awaken and ask *"what if I really did try to become more than I am now?"* The friend to whom I speak is not just my best-friend – but a soul mate, who lifts my spirits and helps me put life into perspective. To you, I dedicate this book as a small token of my appreciation, admiration and respect.

Alone Beside the Sea

My soul is full of longing
  For the time we are apart;
The spirit that dwells inside you
  Sings in a voice that stabs my heart.
When filled with anxious bad thoughts
  I walk alone beside the sea;
The great surf tumbles back and forth
  And cleanses my anxiety.
Rhythm of the crashing waves,
  Like your soul, pulses through me;
If I sail the farthest ocean
  Even there your heart will guide me.
Now, I feel your hand lift my chin
  As I try to understand;
Will I ever see our footprints?
  Side-by-side in the shifting sand?

Amy Way

Take the Bee Line eastward
  Away from it all.
Follow her direction
  Past the station
  To the wall.
Find Fawn Lake
  And there'll be no need to call.
She's waiting with sweet affection.
Pass a gardener kneeling down
  On this sunny day.
Planting flowers skillfully
  Along the road
  Leading up to Amy Way.
She's waiting there for me.
Around this private garden
  Fruit trees, shade and water.
Imagine children playing here
  Where her spirit brought her;
A perfect place to discover her
  With her son and daughter.
She steps out – I'm breathless
  As her smile warms my day.
"Make yourself at home," she sighs
  My first moment on Amy Way.
With no rhyme or reason
   I think of favorite tunes.
Like a change in seasons
  I want to say
  She's a rose in bloom
As I lay dreaming on Amy Way.

Faith, Prayer and a Promise

Faith, prayer and a promise
  Helped me find a friend;
Someone who accepts from me
  The flowers that I send.

Faith in my conviction that
  My love for you is true;
Strengthened my belief that I
  Am happiest with you.

Gone from me you were today
  I waited by the phone;
Waiting for my friend to call
  I waited all alone.

Like sand smoothed by ocean waves
  Friendship melts my cares away;
For a voice, so soft, sounding near
  Gently filled my eager ear.

Faith, prayer and a promise
  Guided me till then;
My prayer for you is happiness.
  This promise for a friend.

Sitting by the Beach

Sunlight soaked treasure
  We're together by the sand;
It's easy to fall in love with you
  When we're sitting holding hands.

Letters never sent and
  Lyrics meant to say
How much love I have for you
  And your tender way.

And now you're nearly out of reach
  As I recall your casual elegance
Like a robin resting on a fence
      Singing softly by the beach

Casual Elegance

Breezy and bright warm into night
Shadows are few music's just right.
Her casual elegance soars to such heights
Teasing my eyes filling my nights.
"This is how love should feel," she said
As we lay head-to-head in the night.

Across 800 miles I know what she's thinking.
I miss her presence I feel I'm sinking.
Help me, heal me, find her for me.
Softly say I want her only.
Call her, tell her I won't let go
My soul mate, my friend, I miss you so.

"Let go of this dream,
Forget these green eyes,"
Her words they haunt me
Even though they were lies.

Rosellient Heart

Does your heart ache?
  Do you feel the connection?
Did you have a choice?
  But to hear a voice
Echo the dejection
  Of a distant soul mate?

Do you long for me?
  Have you lost your direction?
Will your memory fade
  Like promises made
In moments of deep reflection
  Or stay sweet as Chardonnay?

You'll be on my mind
  As long as there is love.
I'll return to you
  As often as you want me to.
I'll bide my time waiting
  Until the stars burn-out above.

Free Overnight Delivery

Pounding the pavement
  Gear jammer jockeys his engine
Through bumper-to-bumper cringes
  With surgeon-like precision.

As the afternoon sky dies fast
  And the midnight sun rises,
Gear jammer drives on wisely
  To his love with butterfly prizes.

So, if you're lost and lonely
  Or, caught in all the revelry
Just call me, I'll be there
  With free overnight delivery.

I miss my love.
  I'd cross land, air or water
To see you smile,
  To kiss your lips
And hold you awhile.
  You're the most wonderful person to me.

Will you open your arms
  And hold me tenderly?

In need of security
  Or searching for some chivalry
Just call me, I'll be there
  With free overnight delivery.

If you can't find a friend
  And in the end there's no luck;
If you're feeling down and out
  Or feeling trapped, or feeling stuck,
When dark clouds hide the sun
  And others tell you to run,
Try to remember that for me
  You're my number one.

When you think you're never free
  Or caught in all the revelry;
Just call me, I'll be there
  With free overnight delivery.

Dreams

When I was young, I thought when we got married,
  Our life automatically turned out right.
I thought my partner and me would be heroes together
  And pursue our dreams we dream at night.
Then I met you and you changed my life
  And made it better.
You're on my mind when I wake-up in the morning
  Until I go to bed.
Thoughts of your smile, your warmth, your gentle grace
  Swirl in my head though my words haven't said
How I long for your kiss, your touch, to talk face-to-face.
  I miss you and dream of our rendezvous place.
Walked down in Old Town last night in a dream.
  Thought I saw you on a corner
Rushed closer, but tripped as I bumped someone's shoulder.
  My heart raced faster and my blood grew warmer;
I called for you, but you were gone.
  I imagine how you'd say, "…be strong…"
But, I long to lay next to you, to feel your breath on my face
  I miss you and dream of our rendezvous place.

Love's Turns and Twists

Everyone was merry in January,
  In Virginia love was born.
In February your voice it carried
  Like a southern breeze gentle and warm.
You stole my heart in March
  Lying in my arms that day;
Still, wasn't it April
  When love bloomed on Amy Way?
In May, I lost my way;
  Heartache and pain took their toll.
But in June, you sung a tune
  Lifting up my heart and soul.
You said good-bye in July
  Sending my heart to my knees;
Gain my trust in August
  By being best friends with me.
In September I'll be a contender
  For one hell of a reason:
    I dream of October when you'll have me over
    Sharing the autumn season.
And in November, you'll finally surrender
  In exchange for Birthday gifts.
How sweet it'll be in December when we
   remember
  A year of love, her turns and twists.

Voice of Your Soul

The woods speak with many voices:
  The crackling of twigs, the rustle of leaves,
  The chirping of birds and squirrels.
The ocean speaks with one voice:
  The sound of the thunderous surf.
Your soul, like the ocean, speaks with one voice.
  A voice that resonates gently from within me
  Before becoming deafening loud.
It's not a voice I hear, but a voice I feel
  As when one passes from shadow to sunlight.
It's a voice simultaneously razor-sharp and soft as fog;
  It envelopes me as if an invisible force
  Is squeezing me, holding me, desperate to speak to me.
Even though words aren't spoken, I understand it.
  The voice leaves me breathless
  And assures me I can trust its message.

Icarus

She stood on the roof of the world
  On mountains of purple hue.
Gazing through the cloudless sky
  At a most majestic view.

Soaring through the air was a man
  Sailing too close to the sun.
She watched him as he crashed to earth
  His wings had come undone.

To see him on his busted back
  Brought a tear to her eye,
To see a man who once could fly
  Now grounded and left to die.

The man stood, then picked up his wing,
 The one which had snapped away,
With baited breath she heard him cry,
  "I'll be back to fly, I'll find away…"

How About Us

Some lovers live life together
  Others drift apart forever
Now how about us?

Some couples climb mountains better
  Others lie in their letters and hide.
How about you?

Some people feel abandoned
  When their heart leaves them stranded
   outside.
How about you?

Still, others remain friends forever
  And grow stronger together.
If I stay with you
  Will that change us?
Will we make it or will we break up?
  I don't know the answer
How about you?

Keep in Touch

I thought it would last forever
  Feeling free and laughing together.
Never thought I could love so much;
  Honey, will you keep in touch?

Remember we danced and sang;
  We left the others alone to hang.
When you had too little, I had too much;
  That's how we are – so stay in touch.

It's begun to rain; I hear the thunder.
  Still your voice makes me wonder…
Could we stay this close this much?
  Trust your senses and keep in touch.

<u>I Wonder What You'll Do</u>

When you changed my life, love
  Did you expect to be
Lost in a day dream
  Like a gull on an ocean breeze?

Would you change your life, love
  If the taste is bittersweet?
Could you break your vow
  And go on somehow
With a soul you're afraid to keep?

Love, I wonder what you'll do.

Will you read my mind
  Like you did that time
When I danced so close to you?
  Love, I think you'll wonder too.

It's like a desperate scene
  In a mixed-up dream;
You've moved on and
  I'm caught in between.

Love, I wonder what you'll do.

I know it can't be wrong
  That I miss your song
Or the way I talked to you.
  Love, I wonder what you'll do.

Far Away From Me

You’re so far away from me.
  My soul searched so long
Now you’re gone.
  Don’t judge or ask me why
I need you by my side.
  Could you stay and be happy?
Whether you’ll stay or go
   I don’t know,
Just don’t leave without me.

As I was losing my senses
  I screamed your name.
When you were falling to pieces
  You did the same.
Now your soul’s forty-eight years from
home
  And that’s a long time to be alone.

I’ll never forget the smiles you wore
  Or how we swore we’d keep in touch.
For me you’re not the only one I’ve loved,
  But no one have I loved as much.

Look at me not knowing what to say..
  I wear a frown and feel let down.
I miss my love; I’m stuck today,
  And I ache because you’re far away.

On Madison

Prayers for strength and wisdom
  Draw me near you dear.
Guess I'll pack away my fear
  Meet my friend and persevere
A rendezvous on Madison.

Pleasant surprises for one
  Deeply loved within:
Hugs, songs by Van Morrison,
  Kisses on lips, nose and chin
With you! On Madison.

Your love keeps me yearning
  Mirroring my past;
Seeking and hiding, too

  On Madison where I found you.
Yes you! On Madison.

Your allure so beautifully done
  Awakens me in morning sun.
Eyes of green and smile that beams
  In my love, my seldom seen.
Your hair between my finger and thumb
  As we lay on Madison!

Dreams come true; we are one.
  Lay me down and whisper who
Takes away the breathe from you;
  Every day I want you, too.
On Madison just me and you.

Family Oak

Somehow sensing something strange
Hearing how your mom's health changed;
My tears dripped like drops of water
When you said you're no one's daughter.

As you spoke you touched my soul;
Would you play one less role?
In my heart your spirit leaped
On words so honest, pure, and deep.

Pray you don't fail or faulter
To believe you're still a daughter,
A mother, a sister, a mentor, a friend;
Not just now, but always without end.

In my Jeep I sat alone
Hearing your voice through my phone;
I prayed when your message came
To end your sorrow, grief, and pain.

From the back row at O'Neil's
I watched you smile, hug and heal
So many who came and gathered;
Near you they didn't cry, but rather
They laughed, they smiled, even joked,
You are for them the family oak.

Expectations From A Samurai

Be determined and advance
Until the age of ninety-one
Exceed these expectations now
There's nothing that can't be done.

No matter what you choose
Refuse to retreat from your goal
Seek courage, strength and wisdom
Devote your mind, body and soul.

Be determined and advance
To avoid the pain of life's regret
Grit your teeth and push ahead
Toward where you want to get.

Strive to be understood
Within yourself and by others
Understand the shadows cast
By parents, sister and brothers.

Achieve unity of like minds
By leaving nothing to chance
Endure suffering with courage
Be determined and advance.

Before First Light

Before first light
As dreams so real stir my heart
I think of you, my love
And my day does start.

Before first light
With star dust still in my head
I check my clock, my love
And get out of bed.

Before first love
After I take my shower
I shave and brush, my love
Finishing within an hour.

Before first light
With the moon still shining bright
I shut the door, my love
Then drive to you in the night.

Before first light
As Winter's wind blows coldly
I walk to you, my love
And you wake up and hold me.

Noble Anchor

My soul sensed some trouble
  In spring west of Virginia;
Perhaps I was plain unlucky
  For not quite reaching Kentucky.
My face felt soar and stubbled
  My eyes so dry and sleepy
Lost upon Blue byway
  Alone at quarter-to-three.

My faith was on the bubble
  When I tried to meet you, mister.
But I failed; now you're gone
  Leaving my soul stung and blistered.

Oh, Noble Anchor!
  No fond farewell was spoken
No time to say goodbye,
  You were gone before I got there
And only God knows why.

I found your home in August
  And walked along Engineer;
Saluted you at Redhound's field
And joined in the student's cheer.
Your spirit was there in town
  From the courthouse to the rails;

In empty stores along the way
  And up over at Sander's café.
My heart beat on the double
  My head raged like a twister
Go gentle into that good night
  For I'll be there for your sister.

Oh, Noble Anchor!
  Town's favorite son!
Am I answering your prayer?
  It's why I dared to come.

No fond farewell was spoken
  No time to say goodbye,
You were gone before I got
  there
  And only God knows why.

A Prayer for Soul Mates

Lord thank you for all the blessings you've bestowed on us. We thank you for bringing us together and granting us love and friendship that nurtures us and lifts our spirits.

Grant us the strength, wisdom and courage to find contentment within ourselves and keep us free from anxiety. Grant us the wisdom to better understand our relationship with one another and with you. And grant us the wisdom and courage to communicate openly – to listen and to offer wise counsel to each other as necessary.

We pray you'll watch over our loved ones and keep them safe, happy and healthy all their days. Keep us close and permit us to discover deeper meaning in life and unite us in a common purpose of love, friendship, and personal growth. Amen.

Imprisoned

I tell myself, I will not mention you,
    I will speak in your name no more.
But then love becomes like fire burning in my heart;
    Imprisoned in my bones.
I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it.

Whenever I sleep, I tell myself I will not dream of
    your tenderness,
    I will lie beside you no more.
But then love becomes like a wave crashing in my
    chest;
    Smashing my soul.

Whenever I speak, I must cry out,
    I will kiss your lips no more!
But then my soul becomes full of longing
    Tormented by your memory.

All the day my thoughts drift to you,
    I tell myself I will converse with you no more.
But then my mind clears like the sky after a summer
    shower;
    And your smile dances in my mind.
I love you still;
    I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it.

Stellar Memories

All my bags on board
    Are stowed away.
Thinking of you
    And our last few days
Walking and talking
    Around the zoo
Or dressing for dinner
    In a tux for you.

I'll treasure forever those
    Moments together
Holding hands
    And not letting go
Under a sun-drenched sky
    A thousand miles ago
Or gathering to honor
    The Return to Flight
Then holding each other
    Throughout the night.
I love you.

Wicked Wind

My heart ached with sadness
    As your hand slipped from mine
Turning along the tow path
    I pretended to be fine.
My thoughts swirled like chaos
    As I walked in disbelief
Hearing you say, “Timing’s not right,”
    Robbed me like a thief.
Crushed, like pebbles on the tow path,
    My dream torn apart,
I wept all day and night
    Healing a broken heart.
“Where are you, my love?”
    I impatiently screamed,
A storm, so fierce was gathering,
    Casting shadows, or so it seemed.
“Where are you? Where are you, my love?”
    I shouted against wicked wind.
“Where are you? Where are you, my love?”
    My hopes grew dark and dim.
A wicked wind blew over me
    As darkness grew all around
Feeling lost, left out and lonely
    And hoping to be found.
Then, a voice rang out unexpectedly,
    Sounding not far, but near
A blind man I sold a mirror to once
    Inadvertently calmed my fear.

Nearly Six Years

Across an ocean
Where castles so old
Crown misty mountains
I solemnly strolled
As the voice of your soul
Settled softly upon me
Leading me along
A Bavarian ridge
To the edge of a cliff
And an old wooden
bridge.

My body it froze
Looking downward in
fear
But I steadied myself
Imagining you near
And coming toward me
Up that rust-colored hill
How I've missed you, my
love,
And wish you were here.

Now again, like a dream
The one where I 'm
falling
Through clouds so it seems
When I hear your voice
calling
Saying you need me
And not to let go
But do you love me?
Do you even know?

Like a castle strong
My faith is like stone
I put your intentions
Ahead of my own.
The seasons they change
As leaves start to turn
I steady myself
With lessons I learn:
"Don't pick a flower
Unless you are sure"
The choices were ours
But the decision was
yours.
Is this love's last hour
Or is something in store?

Are you unhappy with me?
Have I turned your heart
sour?
Do you know I miss you
And wish you were here?
Is it my longing for you
Or my words that you
fear?
I keep steadying myself
And holding back the tears
In hopes that you hear
The voice of my soul
Calling for you
To believe that it's true –
I'm in love with you still
After nearly six years!

What was said to the rose that made it open
Was said to me here in my heart.