

Donna Ashworth

As Time Goes By

As time goes by,
you will learn to see yourself more clearly,
the girl who was always too much of one thing,
and too little of another, was actually
everything she needed to be.

Let her out.

As time goes by,
you will let the simple things become the big,
and you will allow the big things to become the simple,
and that readjustment will be,
the day you really start to live,

Let it be.

As time goes by,
you will be forced to say goodbye many times,
and your soft little heart will shatter
but it will still beat and that will bring you,
all the purpose you need.

Let it beat.

As time goes by,
you will stop choosing wealth over peace,
you will stop choosing money over time,
and you will see that the treasures you need,
are in the smiles and the laughter.

Let them in.

As time goes by,
the moments you remember when your life flashes past,
are never the awful memories my friend, it's the joy,
the summer nights, the lazy days with loved ones,
the midnight chats and the morning hugs,

let them happen.

Let them all happen.

—— 選自 *The Right Words: When You Need Them Most*, (self-pub., Amazon, 2021), 13.

Your Gift

Each of us is born with something special
a gift that's given only just to us
a talent or a quirk or a way of seeing life
a knack of finding light amidst the dust.

It's your special little gift that's going to take you
to the places you have dreamed of in your head
to open doors and bring in souls who marvel at your skills
it will harvest joy and chase away the dread.

But there's something that you must be quite aware of
when it comes to knowing just what is your gift
people search for theirs in vain their whole life through
a thankless chase like that can cause a rift.

Your gift, you see, is not always a grand one
It's not all being fast, or saving lives
it's not always the singing voice, the dancing feet or more
it can sometimes be a simple slice of life.

Your gift could be a constant splash of colour
a way of showing light through cloudy days
your gift could be the way you make others feel at peace
or bring some calm to someone's messy day.

Your gift could be the ears that always listen
when someone is in need of being seen
your gift could be the way you view the world as a whole
and believe that we are all just one big team.

Your gift could be the passions that you share
with others who are not that way inclined
spreading art and spreading music all across your world
is something that can change a lot of minds.

So take a minute now to look within you
and see what little gift you've stored away
let it out and show it love and bring it to the front
your gift will stay with you now, all the way.

—— 選自 *I Wished I Knew: Poems to Soothe Your Soul & Strengthen Your Spirit*,
(Edinburgh: Black & White, 2022), 87-88.

The Rollercoaster

This situation is truly awful.
Seriously terrifying.
Then suddenly, there are moments of brilliance.
Waves of euphoric emotion, brought on by the good that
people do when things are bad.

Some nights I can't sleep.
I can hardly breathe.
I wake in the morning with anxiety choking me.
Then the sun comes out and a video of a man feeding a stray
dog heals my soul.

This year is a rollercoaster.
A microcosm of life.
Like ten years' worth of ups and downs,
All squashed into one week, one day, one hour, one minute,
every second is a lifetime.

But the moments of beauty
Are truly technicoloured.
The smallest thing is appreciated now like never before.
A walk in the sun, a call with a friend feels like Christmas,

birthday, vacation and celebration.

I think I'm learning.

How to be.

How to release the control we never really had anyway.

Each of us is a tiny piece in this puzzle, my friend, but if we play
our part, we are powerful.

Doing nothing, is the most powerful thing, we have ever done.

—— 選自 *History Will Remember When The World Stopped...: Poems from a Pandemic*,
(self-pub., Amazon, 2020), 45.