



Semblance of a Dream

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Published: 2009

Categorie(s):

Tag(s): poetry metaphor symbolism sea dreams ocean anxiety depression emptiness love hope hopelessness light darkness "poetry collection"

Semblance of a Dream
by L. S. Hartfield

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Chapter 1

A Homecoming

In this place, the silence echoes,
Towering in the morn
Above the Silent slinking shadows,
The breath before the storm.

The color fades inside the sky
From sparkling blue to grey
And where, before the shadow falls,
Will there ever spring a day?

I fight inside these melancholy
wanderings on the shore
wondering if this wave shall fall,
will the fight go on no more?

I see the stars inside the sky.
They're waiting for the morn,
When sun shall shine and darkness fades,
And stars shall shine no more.

The ocean sparkles in the dusky sky.
I'm waiting for the dawn.
One day this breeze will let me fly.
And I'll find my way back home.

Chapter 2

Dreams

I look into the starlit night,
And beckon to a dream
Within a world of masks and faces
Of all we see and seem.

I gaze into the darkness
And the brilliant, dazzling light
Of stars within the vortex
Of a never-ending night.

Stars beckon to me in dreams and waking,
Vast as an endless, sparkling sea
Tossing and turning in the ceaseless waves
Of something I long to be.

The sea will not release me.
I am called to it in dreams.
No matter where I start from,
It just leads me to its seams.

I follow its cool sparkles,
Drowning light of moonlit beams.
It calls me to its vastness
In the darkness of my dreams.

I wander in the darkness
Of the oceans and their shores.
My mind is overtaken;
Dreams can cast away no more.

I live in ships and vessels,
Wandering dim-lit corridors.
But in dreams I'm always searching, wandering,
Looking for something more.

I wander in this darkness,
Searching through the empty night.
I'm looking for something I know I'll find,
And I'm following the light
 Of stars and shadows
Empty dreams and faceless
 Souls within the night.
They cast their dreams around me.

They draw me in.
 I follow them.
And I begin
 in twilight
To discover there's something missing,
 A part of me,
 A piece of my soul,
That somehow ceased to be.

Chapter 3

Fairyworld (The Death of Innocence)

A beautiful girl in a lovely world
Touches the stars and her wings unfurl.
She flies away in a sky so gray,
And a beautiful morn turns to malevolent storm.

The winds are blowing; the rains are cold.
Everything beautiful turns to gold.
Everything beautiful ages to old.

The rains fall on her face; there is a stain.
White sparkling beauty turns to pain.
The beautiful heavens, that sky so blue,
Lovely infinity springs anew.

But now the only mark on her face
Is of careworn eyes
And forgotten grace.

The rain comes unto her, and now her tears
Have turned into infinite, eternal fears.
Loveliness forgotten has aged into years,
And the beautiful fairy springs bitter tears.

That beautiful fairy, now alone,
Beautiful fairy, so far from home,
Her love-filled happiness turned to stone.
That beautiful fairy is turned to stone.
And now this malevolent world is alone.

Chapter 4

Gentle Spirit (To my love)

A gentle spirit, a calm embrace,
I'm wandering inside this place.
I wonder if I'll ever feel
This place inside of me that's real.

I know it's there, beneath this mask
of deep and hardened stone.
Will I soon complete this task
To find my way back home?

I see this face inside the sky,
A part of me that's real.
I hide it, yet I don't know why,
Because it's all I really feel.

I do not pierce this melancholy.
I'm afraid of what I'll find.
Afraid of what I'll see and do
When this part of me unwinds.

I'm not certain why I feel this way;
I just know that I do.
But when I choose to make a change,
just know it's because of you.

Chapter 5

Illusions

I walk along the shadowed path,
Soundlessly screaming at stars,
Seeking for something to desperately grasp
As I silently stare at my scars.

I'm lost and I'm longing, silently searching
For something I cannot find.
I'm not even certain I know what it is,
But I know I can't leave it behind.

I pull back the curtains of midnight.
I'm groping around in the dark,
Feeling the darkness in search of a light,
Hoping for hint of a spark.

I'm lost and I'm lonely; I'm cold and afraid.
I'm searching the depths of my mind,
Trying to figure out what's going on here -
Something I might never find.

I'm wandering now in the desolate halls,
Deep in recesses of dark,
Waiting and watching the doors on the walls,
Waiting for something to start.

I see the doors open; there's hope in the night
As all becomes quiet and still.
The light is becoming unbearably bright,
The vision becoming unreal.

I climb to the window; It's bright all around.
The morning has conquered the night.
I see all the colors, so strange it's unreal.
The world is excessively bright.

All is illusion; nothing is real.
There are no true windows or halls.
The doors are not there and they can't hold the light.
My life's not contained in these walls.

Illusions have captured my wandering mind.
No longer I live in the dark.
I watch as illusions unravel, unwind.
They are constantly leaving a mark.

I look at these marks in the darkness,
Silently searching the stars,
Asking for guidance so deep in the night,
Wondering why marks look like scars.

I look out upon the empty night.
Darkness surrounds all the world.
Morning now comes and there is no more fright.
A part of my soul has unfurled.

As the sun rises, I look at the dawn,
Searching the morning now come,
Asking the questions I once feared were gone
As I silently make my way home.

Chapter 6

Make Up Your Mind

Searching for an end
Within this broken piece of glass
 Shattered on the wall,
We strive to mend
Times already come to pass.

The wind roars, and we open our windows
To hear it yearn, and screech, and moan as we do,
Rather than face them breaking,
 Shattering in our faces,
 Or on our backs as we turn away.
Longing for an end,
We thank some god we're not alone.

But are we?
 What are we?
What are we doing in this chaos world?
Why do we choose to be this chaos
Of busted hopes and shattered dreams
 Scattered on the floor beneath us
 To keep us from falling
 Into the emptiness?

Why can't we release?
 We grasp
this twisted mass,
 exhausted, aching,
Falling asleep until we cease
To exist on our own terms
Or care.

We are broken
Mortal souls, wandering around,
We've cried our tears.
When did we cease to be outspoken
And succumb to fate in fear?
Waiting until we hit the ground

We fear death.
We fear to breathe in life,
To live and strive within this conquered world
Of masses twisted in despair and disrepair.
Although we care,
We can't embrace our dreams.
Can we not face
The shadows of our darkest hopes,
Our deepest desires,
The lights that are gleaming on a darkened wall?

Can we stand?
Can we stand to see the world embracing
Things that we're afraid of facing,
The love we lost?

We were afraid of facing hope,
Not in immortality, but in life now,
The moment we can change all time
And leave our marks within the darkness.

In this deserted storm we've been so lost inside,
We can be reborn
If we act
Instead of silently staring at the darkened wall,
Blackened with smoke we perceive as sin
That we continue to look at,
Bracing ourselves in case we ever fall,
Wondering who will let us in.

It enters your mind.
You can't leave it behind.

It's a part of you,
Until you choose to see it
With what you really are,
Until you leave your mark
And make up your mind.

Mirror

Looking at life, it's hard to tell what I see.
Like looking in a mirror, I only see me.
I don't see the background as the things behind me change.
I don't look around, and yet I feel no shame.

I see no glass broken,
Nor things in disarray.
I hear no words spoken.
All else just fades to gray.

I cannot see behind me;
After all, there's nothing there, anyway.
My own reflection is all I see –
Distorted though it may be –
And how I look from day to day.

Nothing's changed except my own appearance.
Nothing's changed but what I feel.
Nothing's affected but myself by my ignorance,
Because, after all, nothing else is real.

Eyes cast down, I turn away from the mirror.
I look up – see that years have passed.
Everything's affected in reality,
Except what I see in the looking-glass.

While I busied myself with the mirror,
Everything has changed.
Eternity drew nearer.
I did nothing, felt no shame.

I ignored life, and as I see,
I see now not what I once was,
But what I have become.

Chapter 8

Silent Steps

Are my footsteps silent?
Or can't I hear them, though they sound?
I hear whispers behind me, but I cannot turn around.

I feel time within me burning,
Trapped and longing for release,
My soul within me churning,
My heart begging now for peace.

I cannot feel the way I used to feel.
I'm numb, but I can stand.
Can I walk, continue journeying?

Like waves upon the sand,
I'm getting nowhere,
Though I feel the difference.

The sand is wet, but I am drowning
In my own ocean of fear.
The salt burns my eyes,
But at last I'm getting near
What I've long sought for In this darkness,
The water cool and clear,
But it leaves a thirst within this emptiness.

I long to quench my soul,
to feel,
But the hard and grainy sand I fall against
Cannot make me whole.
My wounds must first be healed.

Salt is burning in my eyes.
I cannot see what lies
before me.
What now can make me wise?

I believe that I know nothing;
There is no certainty,
Just a vast and endless, falling sea,
But in life we keep on striving,
Or else just cease to be.

There is no knowing;
Only questioning
Withstands the test of time.
All the answers end up falling;
We can't make up our minds.

But are my footsteps silent?
Are they just holes within the sand?
Or does another hear them, follow,
And find me where I am.

Chapter 9

Soundproof Walls

Sometimes I wish I couldn't see.
I wish I could not hear!
I feel so lonely all the time,
And wish my love was near.

I hide behind the soundproof walls.
Glass shatters all around.
I watch, in horrified conviction,
And cannot hear a sound.

I know not what goes on around me.
I know not what may be.
I feel a screeching, deafening sensation
And wish I could not see.

Blinded in my mind's sole eye
And still I cannot hear.
Hide inside unbroken time.
Forever live in fear.

Glass broken in the sands of time.
I know it can't be real.
Abstractness in itself takes form.
Through sensing can we feel.

I live in anxiousness alone.
Space and time just seem to merge.
And time's sweet depth is left unbroken,
Swept away in death's cruel surge.

Chapter 10

The Voice

Your breath is in the wind.
Your voice is in the sea.
And as I walk along,
I feel you holding me.

I hear you voice;
It's following me.
And as I walk alone,
It sinks into the sea.

Chapter **1 1**

We Cannot Turn Around

The shattered glass
 Of soundproof walls
 That can block the night no more
Is scattered, alas,
 On the broken stillness
 Of a distant, darkened shore.

That shore is still, and silent
 In the moonlight,
But for the waves of a falling sea
 That is never drowned.

We are open, awake, aware,
 But we cannot turn around.

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