

Of Beasts and Dreams:

Poetry

By:

David Mendoza

DM

Poem:

1: 3 2: 4 3: 5 4: 6 5: 7 6: 8 7: 9
8: 10 9: 11 10: 13 11: 15 12: 16 13: 17 14: 18
15: 19 16: 21 17: 22 18: 25 19: 26 20: 27 21: 28
22: 31 23: 32 24: 33 25: 34 26: 35 27: 37 28: 38
29: 39 30: 40 31: 41 32: 43 33: 44 34: 45 35: 46
36: 47 37: 49 38: 50 39: 51 40: 53 41: 54 42: 55
43: 56 44: 57 45: 59 46: 61 47: 62 48: 63 49: 65
50: 66 51: 67 52: 68 53: 69 54: 70 55: 71 56: 73
57: 74 58: 75 59: 77 60: 78 61: 79 62: 80 63: 82
64: 83 65: 84 66: 86 67: 88 68: 90 69: 92 70: 93
71: 96 72: 97 73: 98 74: 99 75: 101 76: 103 77: 104
78: 105 79: 106 80: 108 81: 110 82: 113 83: 114 84: 115
85: 116 86: 118 87: 119 88: 121 89: 123 90: 125 91: 127

1

The heart is a stubborn thing
It does not see what the mind tells it to
It refuses to accept any negativity
And is the last to realize its own mistake

But

When there is only darkness
It still seeks the light
When misery becomes deafening
It can distinguish hope

And above all

The heart is fiercely loyal

2

Whatever you create
will in time be washed away

You will spend your piece
of eternity

In pursuit of something
you may never catch
for it to always end in tragedy

Our world is one of greys

A world unfeeling

all consuming

so why not choose to spend each day

Crafting an idea

vibrant

nonsensical

as means to seize reality

3

I wanted power

But brought forth a broken throne

Of ruins, the king

DM

Two friends stopped in a massive field to observe

Two objects at the edge of the universe

They gazed at their patterns and their simple action

Their radiance amidst their darkness a curious attraction

“Do you think they can hear us as we speak to them now?”

One responded to the other at a distance, “I don’t see how

The faith we give them exists in unseen imagination

Despite their potential, they’re a reminder of empty limitation

Though they have their beauty, what could be their value

When without merit, we cast on them everything we wish to be true?”

“Despair not, we have all reason to question their roles

But they might still fulfill the presented goal

Across space, we do then forever pray

A time when we exist unburdened, we will find that day

For even when they should have been swallowed by the night

They continue to show to us their light”

“How mighty then, how they cling to and share their quiet dreams”

One star called out to the other, “They are not as hopeless as they seem”

The pair believe humanity will reach the future only if they accept they can

The stars watch on, knowing every flaw and hope of man

A crowd alone is blind
because they see from so many different sides

Sight without action is not vision
and perspective without heart is crime

But a man alone is blind
because they see from a single solitary side

Action without sight is not vision
and heart without perspective is crime

It is nature that an eye
would work best in a pair

It is irony that eyes
should serve best to simply stare

6

If you disrespect your thoughts

Your mind will crumble

If you devalue your emotions

Your heart will betray you

Ignore both at once

You will find your own voice foreign

Your soul itself at war

DM

A creature is defined

by what they do

We admire the figure of the sky

for how they claim the air above and blue

We question they of the sea

secrets of the deep, they know which to be true

And on land, others run, dig, and climb

some with claws and teeth to many rue

Though they all have a few traits of another

their habits and powers, their role make glue

But if they are how they act the most

what manner of beast are you?

There are those who are remembered in the greatest halls
Who dedicate their lives to find where fact may hide
All to sway the might of progress to their side
By their perseverance is not a single obstacle too tall
But they will all be bested by an eternal unbroken wall
They desire to understand all truth in the world they now abide
Ultimately drowning in the current of intelligence in which they ride
To know everything, of their own minds they fall

They are those who have risen to the mountain's peak
Attempting to have the world to their logic be secure and sound
Though they stand far and beyond the thoughtless meek
For the impossible do their peace and wisdom begin to leak
Forever searching for an answer that by human reason cannot be found
True genius cursed by all they wish to seek

We've all been besieged by monsters of the past

I have my regrets and scars, you have yours

However, should we hold to our courage steadfast

That suffering can be crafted into something more

Though there are moments ruled by doubt

Where the very act of existence seems a burden

To the point we can't find that worth smiling about

And we're left at the mercy of a mind uncertain

There is indeed a stream where love would flow

We still have the means to not let the fight die

If one would stand then one could go

Push against the despair to try

To turn the very worst of cruel pain

Into healing through the strokes of their own art

That will speak with passion to the gain

Of those with a similarly broken heart

See, of this world's beauty we each only have a part

It may not seem much but by others we relate

Remedy is found when we work to build a greater heart

To form a promise far beyond the depths of hate

Where fear's insecurities would have us not be proud

Yet we should not accept defeat to our mistakes

For if we choose instead to shout them loud

Then how could we ever be to ourselves fake

With the strength to put dreams on display

We the scarred the trials will survive

To prove to the wounded that see they may

They still can live and thrive

DM

During the moments we have spent together
And the time when from you I've been far
I've realized with you I want to be closer
I sincerely want to understand who you are

I could claim here that your brilliance outmatches the sun
Or state that those who surpass your smile are none
Yet I don't know your trials, how that joy was won
You are incredible of that I am certain
Which is why I refuse to put on you the burden
Of defining you in my mind's curtain
If I was to dedicate this poem now in your praise
Then only my own expectations I raise
Your true strength, forever left in the haze
If I'm caught up on what I think you mean to me
I discredit you and how could I ever see
The genuine depth of your beauty
I could preach, to you there is no equal
But without the facts it's an unfair ideal
I want to offer my efforts into building something real
Not waste your time on compliments with the reach of a lie
I would very much like to be someone on who you rely

So first, I would like to know why

There are many comparisons I could use or say

But what is it worth if I'm not sure if they're true

I could go on about who I believe you to be all day

But I would rather get to know you

DM

11

A flower

upon the mountain top

alone and free

No harm may befall it

no one to admire its tranquility

Should a wanderer come

seen, left undisturbed

the flower would wither

in its own time

willingly

Should a group come

the flower picked and unattached

broken but loved for a moment be

Should the multitude come

the flower will crumble into dust

by souls unfeeling

who only see

I don't compare to others

I'm stuck simply being me

While others with a smile can light a room

People cut the power when I they see

While others command the stance, might of the forest

I stand the plastic, potted tree

While others have a fortune to call their own

My pockets reside a dime short of a penny

While others could proclaim themselves a genius

I struggle to spell my name correctly

While others naturally attract the crowd

The shadows try to escape my company

While others find and walk the path of success

I got lost on route to being ordinary

While other shape the future with hands of talent

I can't get a grip on who I'm supposed to be

Though I fall beneath the grace of others

I'll still live my life with glee

The point is I don't compare to others

I am happy being me

Wandering one day, I stumbled across a gap
And there, guided by uncertainty, I found within the breach
A shortcut to the paradise all others wish to seek
However, to hold a moments satisfaction in my grasp
I had been made subject to a rather insidious trap
My heart healed, then broke further, answers not in reach
Because I was fallen prey to the desires of a leech
The insincerity had not died, instead grown to relapse
Escaping aware made of how dreadful temptation be
I returned to my path content by which now I know
Still, here and there, I think I see
The remnants of my secrets hidden in the scenery
For even if I choose to let those shadows go
They refuse to let go of me

Where the mind should hope, heart believe

Fear and sorrow make their lair

A dreamer to the world losing color

To reality surrendering their right to dare

But if they wish to erase your future

They worry of what you have to share

Did you forget, as fire and trauma sharpen steel

Man can own the pain they bear

You choose whether you lose yourself

To keep faith against all the soul find cruel and scare

For becoming as all the rest

Of that when did you begin to care?

Let the world itself stand in your way

Anything less should be unfair

There lurks a beast in every home, each room
While none of us realize our approaching doom

It feeds on faith before hope dare confess
And turns joy to poison, to contentment stress
It tears apart families at moments of dissatisfaction
To young aspiring dreamers it stands a fatal dis-attraction
Yet you welcome it into your arms, your guard digress
What it wants from you, you do not care to guess
Then again, from it there be nowhere to hide
It commands armies, hearts and minds already on its side
Forming pawns in a heinous game of chess
Forcing the opposition solely to it obsess
Your friends, they bow, it pretends to be the light
Being beneath vast and crippling as lonely night
Do not be fooled, society so accepting of its dress
That anyone might consider it necessary bless
For its company, there is not accepted another solution
Dozens upon billions surrendering their inner constitution
It claims the eyes, the tongue, for its grand transgress
In its name, souls screaming no and feelings saying yes

More dangerous than any demon, legend, or spirit

Horrifying as we all desperately pursue it

At the core of every quick and lasting mess

Is our blind desire for total happiness

DM