

What greater thing
is there
for two human souls
than to feel that they
are joined for life —
to strengthen each other
in all labor,
to rest on each other
in all sorrow,
to minister
to each other
in all pain,
and to be
with each other
in silent
unspeakable memories . . .

— George Eliot

Life is sweet because of the
friends we have made
And the things which in common
we share;
We want to live on, not because
of ourselves,
But because of the ones who
would care.
It's living and doing for
somebody else
On that all of life's splendor
depends,
And the joy of it all, when we
count it all up,
Is found in the making of friends.

—Anonymous

What created the
strong hand of friendship
between us?
Our special relationship
and caring for each other
must have been
predestined by a
divine force.

— Louise Bradford Lowell

Friendship is everything. Friendship is more than talent. It is more
than government. It is almost the equal of family.

—Line from the Godfather

The greatest healing therapy is friendship and love.

—Hugh Humphrey

I am going your way,
so let us go hand in hand.

— William Morris

There are no such things as strangers,
only friends that we have not yet met.

— Anonymous

I'd like to capture a rainbow
and stick it in a big box
so that,
anytime you wanted to,
you could reach in and pull out a
a piece of sunshine.

I'd like to build you a mountain
that you could call your very own -
a place to find serenity
in those times when you
feel the need to be
closer to yourself

I'd like to be the one
who's there with you when you're
lonely or troubled
or you just need
someone
to hold on to.

I'd like to do all this and more
to make your life happy.

But sometimes
it isn't easy to do
the things I would like to do
or give the things I would
like to give.

So . . . until I learn how to
catch rainbows and build mountains,
let me do for you
that which I know best . . .

. . . Let my simply
be your friend.

- Jacqueline J. Hancock

Blessed are they who have the gift of making friends.
for it is one of God's best gifts.
It involves many things but above all,
the power of going out of one's self,
and appreciating whatever is noble
and loving in another.

-Thomas Hughes

*H*appiness seems made
to be shared.

Pierre Corneille

FRIENDSHIP IS SHARING

Friendship is the kind of sharing
That fills your days
with warmth and caring..
Friendship is the thoughtfulness
Kind words and loving acts express..
Friendship is the helpful ways
That brighten not-so-happy days..
Friendship is each special thing
Moments shared together bring

- Carrie Spencer York

FRIENDSHIP

A friend is like a tower strong,
A friend is like a joyous song
That helps us on our way.
When golden ties of friendship
bind
The heart to heart, the mind to
mind,
How fortunate are we!
For friendship is a noble thing;
It soars past death on angel's wing
Into eternity.
God blesses friendship's holy bond
Both here and in the great beyond:
A benefit unpriced.

Real friends are those who, when
you've made a fool of yourself, don't feel that you've done a permanent job.

For men of true wisdom and goodness are contented to take persons and things as they are, without complaining of their imperfections, or attempting to amend them. They can see a fault in a friend, a relation, or an acquaintance, without ever mentioning it to the parties themselves, or to any others; and this often without lessening their affection....for I hope my friends will pardon me when I declare, I know none of them without a fault: and I should be sorry if I could imagine I had any friend who could not see mine. Forgiveness of this kind we give and demand in return. It is an exercise of friendship, and perhaps none of the least pleasant. And this forgiveness we must bestow, without desire of amendment. There is, perhaps, no surer mark of folly, than an attempt to correct the natural infirmities of those we love. The finest composition of human nature, as well as the finest china, may have a flaw in it; and this I am afraid in either case is equally incurable; though, nevertheless, the pattern may remain of the highest value.

- Henry Fielding

How beautiful, how grand and liberating this experience is, when people learn to help each other. It is impossible to overemphasize the immense need humans have to be really listened to, to be taken seriously, to be understood.

Modern psychology has brought it very much to our attention. At the very heart of all psychotherapy is this type of relationship in which one can tell everything, just as a little child will tell all to his mother.

No one can develop freely in this world and find a full life without feeling understood by at least one person. . . .

He who would see himself clearly must open up to a confidant freely chosen and worthy of such trust.

PAUL TOURNIER, M.D.

To My Friend

God sends each person
into this world
with a special message
to deliver,
with a special song
to sing for others,
with a special act of love
to bestow.
No one else can
speak your message,
or sing your song,
or offer your act of love.
These have been entrusted
only to you.

John Powell, S.J.

A FRIEND is one who knows you as you are,
understands where you've been, accepts
who you've become and still invites you to grow.

Friends are people who will try to be patient when they feel impatient and for friendship's sake find patience.

Friends are people who will try to cheer you when they feel sad and for friendship's sake find cheer.

Friends are people who will try to love you when they feel unloving and for friendship's sake find love.

Friendship....how it dissolves the barriers that divide us, and loosens all constraints, and diffuses itself like some fine old cordial through all the veins of life--this feeling that we understand and trust each other, and wish each other heartily well. Everything into which it really comes is good. It transforms letter-writing from a task to a pleasure. It makes music a thousand times more sweet. The people who play and sing not at us, but to us--how delightful it is to listen to them! Yes, there is a talkability that can express itself even without words. There is an exchange of thoughts and feeling which is happily alike in speech and in silence. It is quietness pervaded with friendship.

-Henry Van Dyke

To My Dear Friend

*Friendship is a great adventure.
In our friendship I discover new truths
about myself and about you
as we reveal to each other
deeper layers of ourselves.
Our friendship opens my mind,
widens my horizons,
fills me with new awareness,
deepens my feelings, gives my life meaning.
Our friendship helps me believe
I can take on the problems
and opportunities of life.
Our friendship has a newness about it
with each new day.
I am grateful for how sensitively
and delicately you are my friend.*

John Powell, S.J.

A Promise to My Special Friend

*I know that my greatest contribution to your life
will be to help you love yourself,
to think better and more gently of yourself,
to accept your own limitations more peacefully.
To give you all that you need would require abilities
in me that I do not have.
I cannot always come through for you as you need me to.
But I can promise you this much
I will try.
I will try to reflect to you your kindness and friendship.
I will try to be a mirror to your beauty and goodness.
I will try to read your heart, not your lips.*

John Powell, S.J.

The depth of friendship is measured by the completeness of the self-giving; the worth of the friendship by the richness of the self given. And no man truly loves, who would not by persistent culture, by steady submission to life's discipline, and by continual growth, bring to his friend a constantly enriching self. Nor can any friendship deepen where the mutual selfgiving does not go forward, in ever new and larger sharing and serving; the best vision and faith and inspiration and courage of each provoking in the other his best.

-Henry Churchill King

What is a friend?

A single soul dwelling in two bodies.

-Aristotle

True friendship is an identity of soul rarely to be found in this world.
Only between like natures can friendship be altogether worthy and enduring.

-Mahatma Gandhi

Friendships are the fruits gathered from trees planted in the rich soil of love, and nurtured with tender care and understanding. These trees are never subjected to drought. They are moistened with sympathy and kindly deeds, shielded from the wintry blasts by the warm softness of tender affection, and with this care they yield a harvest richer than all wealth.

-Alma L. Weixelbaum

BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER

When you're weary, feeling small,
When tears are in your eyes, I will dry them all.
I'm on your side.
Oh, when times get rough and friends just can't be found,
Like a bridge over troubled water I will lay me down,
Like a bridge over troubled water, I will lay me down.

When you're down and out, when you're on the street,
When evening falls so hard, I will comfort you.
I'll take your part.
When darkness comes and pain is all around.
Like a bridge over troubled water I will lay me down,
Like a bridge over troubled water, I will lay me down.

Sail on silverbird, sail on by. Your time has come to shine.
All your dreams are on their way.
See how they shine.
Oh, how they shine.
Oh, if you need a friend, I'm sailing right behind.
Like a bridge over troubled water I will ease your mind,
Like a bridge over troubled water, I will ease your mind.

- Simon and Garfunkel

Friendship is the marriage of the soul.

-Voltaire

IT IS THE DESTINY OF ALL RELATIONSHIPS TO BECOME HOLY.

It is chance that makes brothers but hearts that make friends

-Von Geibel