

Excerpt for Sixth Volume of Poetry
(Pages 249-256)

Poem 704
8:05 AM
Thursday
April 9, 1981

New Friend,

Anger is a hard feeling on each of us. We hurt easily. We may not be able to make it because of the things you have not said and the things I have not said that we said a little bit to each other last night.

But - I believe that as a spoiled brat you have come a long way in being considerate and as an up and down emotional person - I have come a long way. My depressions do not last half as long as before.

I think we are good for each other - but the changes we have made and still need to make in order to live together may not be worth it.

And yet we can feel so go with each other - that we ought to reconsider our anger and hurt and think of the Hope we share for a good future.

I do wish you would read that book - those two chapters - it would help you see part of the process of Divorce that you are going through and I am going through. What happened last night is a natural consequence of the pain of our previous relationships. We are so concerned not to be taken advantage of (in your case) and not to be put down (in my case) because that is what the past was like. We over react, a natural consequence and part of the divorce-grief process.

Please read the book and let's talk - calmly. I guess I wanted to teach you a lesson last night. I could have called. But I was getting tired of your superior attitude - of I know better than you. Maybe you do - but I am proud and I like to make my own way.

I trusted you and I feel betrayed.

You thought I could just write right away - how long did it take you to put that stuff away? I had to tease you and even shame you and anger you before you put it away. And finally, it

was both of us working together that did it. - That, Darling, is your depression and fear showing up.

I need the same kind of help to write. And writing is harder to do than putting stuff away like you did - Why? because you have always been a tidy person - but I have never been able to sustain writing before in my life - except in H.S. and college. That was sixteen and twenty years ago. I have a lot of fears to overcome. I need your help as you needed mine to put that stuff away.

That is also part of the fear, grief and hurt and depression of Divorce and change. For both of us.

I believe, New Friend, that what we have in the beautiful moments is worth some struggle and working through conflict.

You have hurt me so deeply since you said you couldn't afford me - and I have not been able to write or work with any sense of security. I feel that you could just "throw me out" or walk out if I did not become a successful writer.

You like rich things. You do not like counseling - and that is my choice of work and study. There are a lot of strikes against us.

But Dwyer's Book helps you when you read it. That is counseling.

You are prejudiced, opinionated. Close-minded about a lot of things.

I am ignorant, stubborn, and rebellious when I need to learn so I can "fit in" and find work and/or success in this world.

(Here is another one of my poems within a letter. I am quoting from the Bible and commenting on how it applies to us.)

Poem 705

I still think we can help each other.

Love is patient and kind
Love is not boastful, arrogant, or rude
It does not take advantage

It does not hold grudges

**And here we are impatient
unkind
boastful
arrogant
and rude**

**We take advantage of each other's weaknesses
because we do not know
each other that well yet
And, we hold grudges.
Yet we still love?
Don't we?**

**We are working on
all those things
It will take time
Your attitude may force
me to leave you
So I can go on without
your pressuring me
and telling me what to do
(when I don't always ask for
your help and you tell me anyway)**

**And my lack of productivity
And your need for wealth
So you can buy the
things you like
May cause you to go back to (your husband)
or seek a nice old Millionaire to take care of you.**

**But we have such beautiful moments
We are both changing
We can give ourselves
the time we need
or
we can be
impatient
Boastful (trying to one up each other)
Arrogant (unwilling to compromise)**

**Rude (hurting each other intentionally)
We take advantage of each other still
I think we should accept
that in ourselves
You do it to me
I do it to you
We need a lot
from each other
We are reluctant
to give.
Because we have to give up
Something we want
in order to give
to the other.
And we hold grudges
When we fight
we bring up past hurt
When we are hurt we
Do not forgive
easily
if we forgive at all.**

**I am willing to
keep on working on us
are you?**

**I will be gone job seeking
this morning
I will call you at work later.**

**I won't wait for you to
call me. You probably
wouldn't anyway.**

**Your pride gets in the
Way (So does mine
at times)
Anyway**

**New Friend
I want you to think
Are our
good moments
worth
struggling and working
and changing for
in order to keep them
and add to them.
I think so.**

**But we have to learn
What we can say to
each other
and feel about each other
That won't hurt our pride
or put us down
or anger us so much
we give up
the struggle
and work
and change
we need in order
to grow together
and Really LOVE:
Patiently
& Kindly
without boastfulness
Arrogance
or rudeness
without taking advantage
of each other
And thinking that we are being taken
advantage of.**

**And we need to learn
Not to hold grudges**

Shall we try

**Darling?
I do love you.**

Paul

**Poem 706
9:35 AM
April 11, 1981**

**Dream on, Dreamer
in Solitary pleasure
or lonely pain
Maybe
One day
Your dreams
and the Reality
That surrounds you
will coincide.**

New Friend,

**It has been good
very good
To dream along with you
We both
Wanted perfection
So much
We kept our feelings
and thoughts
to ourselves
That we should have shared
long ago
to work them out
Now
too much time
has passed
and covered over
like festered wounds
Those unshared
feelings and thoughts
They now separate us
in lonely sadness
as once our dreams**

held us together.

You and I are resolved
We shall not live
in hell again
I'd rather be alone
and so would you
or maybe living with
your mother.
Then again after all
this time
(your husband) may woo you
back again.

The beauty of our moments
will last forever
even if our relationship
is ended
We can still be friends
But our worlds
are so different
What you want
seems strange to me
Though I share in some
of your desires
And how I am
is not the way
you want me to be.

Our girl in the clouds
Illusive
lover
of
my soul.

I guess there can be
no substitute
For she is me
As I would be
From another world.
Kindred spirits

**Separated
by differences
in the air we breathe
light years apart
together only
in our dreams.****

(**Here I acknowledge that New Friend is not my soul mate as I had hoped. However, I do work on our relationship until October. After that, I move on and continue my search for a soul mate with other women.)