Summa Sophia, SpE (Sonnet poetry Edition) Volume 10, Number 3x1

All things arise and cease due to interdependent causes and conditions

Compliments of Narada Theosophical Society Tacoma, Washington

~ 1~

Sonnet Friendships

by
Bing Escudero
March © 2003 v1.3

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Summa Sophia 1175 Harrington Place NE #212 Renton WA 98056 U.S.A.

Phone (425) 227-6979

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Summa Sophia is a desktop publication in a folded single-sheet format, focusing on significant spirituality subjects for study, meditation, and investigative application, as well as for enlightening discussions in small group meetings.

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~1~

They came, we hugged, shook hands, and, now are gone; Close friends of mine who held that vision high To speak of wisdom, service to be done, Of meditation reaching earth to sky. In brotherhood the universal theme With sisterhood upholding gender peace, Together, goodwill, more than just a dream, Hopes for humanity to find release. Although they're gone, it cannot be in vain, As long as we who carry on are here To lift as much of karma where there's pain, In selflessness that makes us persevere:

My true friends till the end they shared with me To serve unknown for truth that more might see.

~2~

The real work is not where limelights shine,
Nor where ambitions cloak their clever clout,
Nor could it be behind an office sign
To show the world its classy whereabout.
It never was for fashioned praises drawn,
Appearances to spread on print and screen,
Name recognition posted subtly shown,
The power plays and pressure ploys that spin.
My friends who also knew have told me so,
And their compassion did I most admire,
Despite the worse, commitments were aglow,
They kept the faith for truth we all aspire.
For those of us who are still here to live,
In serving wisdom do we gladly give.

~3~

Our life on earth is very short indeed,
There is no time to waste, to whine or wait,
Or hail and hustle honed by urban greed,
Nor cling to power pushing to be great.
Our friends are treasures, guard their precious worth,
They're not to be exploited then replaced,
As done by pompous profiles pressing forth
To lord it over and the rest laid waste.
Life is so fleeting for proud furtherings,
Delusions that deceive the mordant mind,
The ego and its docile underlings
In posture hypes of window dressing kind.
Forthwith we rise through any perfidy,
There to unmask the tragicomedy.

~4~

We'll never know what friendship truly is
Until we are nobody hardly seen,
We're not in power people plead to please,
Our only title being one has been;
Devoid of worldliness in showy makes,
The funds available are low to none,
Nor have we influence that strongly shakes
To cater to collusions boardroom done.
Thus when we have true friends, we appreciate
The sacredness of mutual loyalty,
In joyful trust to work uplifting fate,
That silent service for humanity:
Therewith full circle harmony reveals
Among true friends there is the love that heals.

In summary form, from Numbers 1 to 6, read only the couplets or last two lines of each Sonnet, then, conclude with this last additional couplet—

The keys to truth in touching through these beads, Are now our mindful meditation seeds. $\sim \Delta \sim$

~5~

There's more to friendship than our brotherhood And sisterhood to links of every kin, From associations onto nationhood, Up to our troubled world for peace to win. For from the depths of utter selflessness. We draw forth true and pure integrity, We are authentic in trustworthiness Expressive of spiritual unity. Relations are fulfilled by honest deeds In full compassion alleviating pain, Our wishes put to work with wisdom seeds To grow full bloom and all its fruits obtain. Then from the cosmic to the very small, We're blest with friendliness—the One in All!

The best that we can do for dharmic* good, To East from West, are offers that belong To serve the universal brotherhood, Pass gender bias, righting where there's wrong; The work means to uplift humanity, The beauty of the wisdom to be known, Of teachings on the path of unity That those who suffer are not left alone. Yet there's much more for all still left undone: Conflicting creeds, to stop their terror ways. To open hearts and minds to feel as one, Wealth wars to cease to prosper peaceful days; Thus ever more our friendliness to spread, In deeds and words of wisdom softly said. $\sim \Delta \sim$

* From the Sanskrit word, *Dharma*, hereby defined as that resplendent reality of all-knowing silence, • gem of gems · penetrative perception · supreme science

· altruistic attribute choiceless awareness
 holistic harmony cosmic character

· creative principle

- governing goodness perennial philosophy
- · inner illumination
- intrinsic intelligence quintessential quality essential constitution
 liberating law noble noesis
- · eternal knowledge · ordering beauty ethical imperative · exalted enlightenment · original being foremost freedom · pathless path
- · perfective power · pervasive peace
- · redemptive resurrection · unifying wholeness regenerative recourse
 resoteric realization
 universal understanding
 unknown initiation
- · selfless self superlative singularity
 - · virtuous virtuosity · wisdom religion

· transcendent truth

· transformative treasure

· unconditioned consciousness

· truest nature

... especially applied to uplifting our humanity in the context of realizing spirituality.