

A New Future

I can't change the past, but
I can build a new future
One day at a time,
Based on what I do,
From now on, by staying
In the now, being
In the know, putting
Others first, giving my
Life to God, following
The Holy Spirit,
No matter how painful,
Arduous, or unpleasant.

Harlan Richards

Magnificence

The pale white orb reflecting
The sun's brilliance hangs
In a lavender sky above
An azure blue so compelling that
It shames every rainbow that
Ever arced across the heavens.
The vivid blue sky of a sunny day
Pales beside this night's azure
Like a crayon bows to
Airbrushed acrylics. The denizens of
Eau Claire river valley are blind to
The speechless beauty of the night.
Intent on survival, a doe conceals
Her fawn from ravening wolves,
Muskie cruise the silent depths
Madly striking at whatever moves.
I alone cast my eyes skyward
To receive nature's gift,
Grateful for the priceless privilege
Few will ever experience in a
Lifetime of lost opportunity
Never taking the time to bask in
Such Lunar magnificence.

Harlan Richards

Life's Aria

Music fills the air
Caresses my soul
Like a lover's fingers
Trailing nails across my back,
All goose bumps and tingles.
Orgasmic pleasure
In oscillating eardrums
Waiting to be noticed, midst
Cluttered thoughts,
Wandering attention.

Harlan Richards

Strife

So often conflict occurs
When egos clash, each
Wanting what he wants
When he wants it.
Empathy is absent from
This classroom of life.
Walking a mile
In another man's shoes
Can shine the light of understanding
On murky moments
When reptilian responses
Provoke incendiary incidents.
It's not that serious.
If we want to make spiritual
Evolutionary progress we
Must put aside strife,
Embrace our brothers and sisters,
Placing love and harmony over
Selfish ego's demands.

Harlan Richards

Highway Sound

There is a highway sound,
Whine of tires,
Calls to me,
Speaks of adventure,
Places not yet known.
Route 66 tied west
To the rest.
Prairie schooners,
Wagon trains across desert,
Made first highway sound.

Harlan Richards