

On Our World

A collection of Poems by Jon Swift starting at 18.

This is the time when the search for fulfillment moved from external to internal.

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Looking Up (funny things)

I sit and watch the clouds go by and I begin to think
of all the funny little things living in my sink.
They never get to see the clouds going by.
I guess they're not as lucky as I.

I sit and watch the moon and I begin to grin.
I hadn't really looked at it when I lived within.
It wasn't as important as baseball or TV.
It was just a part of the scenery!

I sit and watch the rain drumming on the ground,
and with a roll of thunder it's a pleasant sound.
I don't mind getting wet 'cause that's the only way
to come out with the rain and play.

I sit and watch the trees talking ceaselessly.
They're telling all their little jokes to me.
I wish I could tell them a couple of mine,
think of all the things in common we would find.

I sit and watch this world and I begin to smile.
I hadn't really looked at it in quite a while.
It is the only thing that doesn't have it's fee,
all you have to do is look and see!

I sit and watch my friends and now I can see
there is a light within them that's within me.
Don't you want to feel that warmth inside
that gives you breath and makes your heart alive?

Jon Swift
June 1971

More than Words

.....,

I love you more than words could say!
Please don't ever let me stray.
Just guide me,
guide me through another day.

.....,

you planted the Holy seed,
servng you is all that I need,
for in your love,
I will be freed!

Jon Swift
1973

Just want to love you

I just want to love you.
I just want to care for you.
I just want to love you
all of my life.

I don't care if we're near or far.
I don't care if we got a car.
I don't care who we are
just want to love you.

I don't care if we're rich or poor,
I don't want to worry no more.
Only one thing that is sure,
just want to love you.

I just want to love you,
just want to be your friend
and love you to the end
of my life.

Jon Swift
1973

Children's Hospital Song

I saw a smile that never ends, never ends.
I saw a smile that never ends.
I heard a laugh that never ends, never ends.
I heard a laugh that never ends.

Love will make you smile.
Love will make you laugh.
Love will make you cry
and Love will make you high!

I tasted a candy that never ends, never ends.
I tasted a candy that never ends.
I felt a breeze that never ends, never ends.
I felt a breeze that never ends.

Love tastes sweet.
Love feels fine.
Love is so neat
and it lasts all the time.

Jon Swift
December 1975

The bird

The bird sings a melody above.
He gets his tune from Love.
In the branches of a tree
the wind plays harmony.

Rain fall from the sky.
A drop hits my eye.
Now I can see
that I am truly free!

Jon Swift
April 1975

Smiling Smiling

Smiling, smiling, my heart is smiling
just to know your name.
Smiling smiling, this little one is smiling,
I'll never be the same.

Laughing, laughing, my heart is laughing
when I hear you call.
Laughing, laughing, the world 'll be laughing
when the darkness falls.

You are beauty, and you are the joy of my soul.
You are a lover, who's Love never grows cold.
I know I'll love you
as this life unfolds.

Jon Swift
1976

Raccoon Prayer

You are my all
my guide, my inspiration.
You are my all,
the source of my meditation.
You are my all,
I give my heart to you.
I long to be one, I long to be one.

There is a space that keeps my heart from you.
There is a veil that makes us two.
Please take my hand
and bring me closer still.
I long to be one, I long to be one.

If I could hear
your voice in all I hear,
if I could see
your smile in all I see,
if I could be
with you all the time,
I'd know we're one, I'd know we're one.

Jon Swift
April 1976

Florida Highway

I woke up this morning and took a breath,
wondered if today would be my death,
I don't know what's happening and
I don't care 'cause
I love ya, I love ya, I do!

You're my smile and you're my laugh,
you're my guide and you're my path,
you're my beginning and my fate,
you're my shining gate!

Rollin' down the road I found this tune,
under the stars and the purty, purty moon.
All I see, it speaks of you 'cause
I love ya, I love ya, I do.

Jon Swift
July 1978

Prayer of the Call

Could I come and sit next to you?
Could I be a small part of you?
Would you hold me in your arms?
Would you keep me from harm?

I've been away from you so long,
I don't know if you can hear my song.
But if you will just hear my prayer
I will soon be there.

Oh my friend, I love you!
And I know that you love me too.
Please, please hear my prayer
so I may soon be there.

Jon Swift
August 1981

Algiers Hotel

You care for me,
I don't know why.
You love me
until I cry.
You're so good to me
and all I can do
is look down and hide my eyes.

You look at me,
it embarrasses me so.
You smile at me,
knowing what you know.
You come to me
as if you had
no other place to go.

I know I've hurt you,
I've turned away.
Will I do it again?
I just can't say.
All I can do is to ask you to
hold me today.

Jon Swift
September 1981

Threshold

At the threshold again,
looking through the kingdom's gate,
not knowing what has pulled me back so many times before.

Will I enter this time,
this timeless remembering,
no shadow of thought to distract me?

Not strength, wisdom nor deed
will take me in,
just will; will I?

Jon Swift
May 8, 1989

how funny to sign name and date
leaving name and date behind!

Double Rainbow (Florida Highway Song)

Drove out on the highway today,
going to work, not much to say.
I looked ahead into the sky
and I saw a rainbow, I got high.

I'm so lucky that I can see.
I'm so grateful to be alive.
Problems come and they go
but they can't touch my rainbow!

Fireflies danced for me last night,
telling stories in flashing green light.
Don't you think, maybe
things could be all right.

Ocean waves crashing on the sand,
carpets of color upon the land,
winds of joy blowing over me
I'm holding miracles in my hand.

I'm so lucky that I can see.
I'm so grateful to be alive.
Problems come and they go
but they can't touch my rainbow!

Jon Swift
January 1986

Sweet Soul

Born in a time of joy
Sweet soul with a sunny smile.
Little girl you're apart from me
Just a little while.

Tears we've shared together,
laughter, many, many times,
childhood games and adventures,
little girl, friend of mine.

Know I always think of you
when we're far apart.
I always feel your gentle warmth
laying sweetly on my heart.

Jon Swift
November 1986

Leaves on Stage

The curtain lifts, with audience inattentive, leaves of scarlet, gold and rust.
Careless lovers kick their feet through the first scenes of trust.

A child interrupts an image of fancy to touch a beckoning branch,
while gusts caress the loving treetops, sparking whirlwinds of dance.

The writer sits with pen in hand to judge each minor flaw.
But in the act, his view changes to humbleness and awe!

His part: to write a descriptive line with a creative hue.
Time stands still as the leaves, still falling, give him the perfect cue.

But what of you who listen now to yet another part?
Do you critique, stand aloof, or hear with open heart?

There's no lighter joy than to stand on stage catching leaves as they fall,
but also sit in audience at the director's call.

Jon Swift
October 1988

Roma

If all the eyes of all the world
focused on one point,
Do you think that
they would see the same?

If all the voices of all the world
joined in one song,
would we all hear
the same refrain?

If all the loves of all the world were just one love,
who could possess it and who would be unloved?

If all the breaths of all the world
were inspired as one,
who could take a life
to own?

If all the hearts of all the world
felt joy overflow,
would we see life
as a gift to grow?

If all the loves of all the world were just one love,
who could possess it and who would be unloved?

If all the trees of all the world were made to paper
and all the waters made into ink,
who could describe the wonder and the beauty of
that which lies within?

If all the loves of all the world were just one love,
who could possess it and who would be unloved?

Jon Swift February 1991

Surfside

Radiant face, voice of gold,
wisdom in stories simply told,
cleansing words and gentle hands
giving love with no demands.

A simple path, clearly shown,
the deepest truth to be known,
perfect guide with laughing eyes,
shining light in disguise.

A lovers prayer heard from afar,
he comes quietly to where we are.
Dreams fulfilled and all hurts healed
the masters touch is revealed.

A mirror bright, shining true
happiness is inside of you.
Sweetest love, kindest friend,
spreading joy with no end.

Radiant face, voice of gold,
wisdom in stories simply told,
cleansing words and gentle hands
giving love with no demands.

Jon Swift
1992

Ocean Song

On a day so hot and dreary
I've come by chance to the ocean's shore,
so far
from where I'd been before.
Could it be
that I could enter in
the cool, cool depths
of eternity?

One foot touched,
the other washed,
I give myself with all my longing,
foam and surf,
carry me into the gentle waves
that give me hope
and carry me to serenity.

The long, long road
has finally reached its end,
now I embrace
my true, true friend.
Oh sweet love,
how can I express
my thanks
to the Ocean of Grace.

Jon Swift 1-31-93

For a short time

Just for a short time we pass this way,
sunrise to sunset, through each magic day.
Clothes we wear now just fall away,
only our heart's true love will stay.

The rhythm in our breath marks the passing time,
a gift in each moment, the creators sign.
stillness and silence found within
herald the beauty that life brings.

Just feel the joy within you sing
dancing the part each of us brings.
Just for a short time we pass this way,
sunrise to sunset, through each magic day.

J.Swift
Aug,95

Moment by Moment

Moment by moment, come and gone.
Time keeps moving along.
Hey, did ya know that
life rides on every breath?

In and out, to and fro.
who knows which way to go?
Could it be our life
rides on every breath?

What's the madness all around?
People suffering without a sound,
Are we headed for birth
or our death?

Are we separate or are we one?
Does each nation have its own sun?
Who among us can give
a single breath?

Stop now, it's no sin
there's a garden deep within,
Smell the fragrance that
rides on every breath.

Pure white light, incredible sound,
a gold mine to be found,
bet it all, bet it
on every breath.

Jon Swift 1996

Roo

Sometimes I feel like dancing
my feet just start to move.
Sometimes I feel like singing
when I'm in the groove

I see my love before me
and my friends all around.
and I just have to get up and jump
right off the ground

this song may sound silly
but it's really fun to play
and it doesn't really matter
'cause there isn't much to say

Feeling good is all this is about
happiness and joy
and if you feel good right now
then dance and help me say;

Sometimes I feel like dancing
my feet just start to move.
Sometimes I feel like singing
when I'm in the groove

©1997 J.Swift

If I could have anything

If I could have anything, what would I choose,
What would I keep and never lose?
If I could have anything, anything at all,
Give me joy, give me joy, give me joy.

Choices there are many, things all around,
None gives me happiness I have found,
Only my heart, do I always hold,
Growing fuller as I grow old.

Spending this lifetime trying to thank you,
I'm just beginning with years too few,
If I could have anything, anything at all,
Give me joy, give me joy, give me joy.

J.Swift Feb, 1997

Cool Night

I remember when we met,
Your smile filled the room.
You gave to me
the sweetest love
and freed the chains of my heart.

Just begun to trust myself
and let the feelings show
Oh what a thirst
pulls me on
To be close to you.

Time doesn't matter now.
We have no place to go.
Please hold me close, let's dance a while
and sing the songs of the heart.
Please hold me close, let's dance a while
and sing the songs of the heart.

©1997
Jonathan Swift

On our world

One cannot fight terror, for fighting is a terrible thing.
To remove darkness in a room, turn on the light.

To remove violence and hate, bring kindness and love.
Revenge comes from fear and the only fear is of the changeable,
know the changeless compassion that is given to us all.

If we judge another we enslave them and ourselves,
be free of judgment for we all breathe the same.

Greed can never fulfill us because it comes from emptiness.
Fill yourself with the joy of existence and embrace life.

All that we need has been provided;
accept it with humility and the waves of kindness
will spread from within you to the corners of our world.

Jon Swift - 2005

The Way

You lead the way forward, piercing the waters with no fear.

Without strain you carry us on your broad noble back.

Safe are we that ride with you though the waters are black.

Gentle is the journey surrounded by turmoil.

It is easy to fall off, deceived by glittery lures.

So let me be clear and focus on the way for it is my life being saved.

Jon Swift
March 2013

Do you?

Do you have time for me
I don't doubt that you care
But it would mean so much if when you pass by
you could glance my way.

I'm just one of the crowd
A face without any name
Can you feel my love longing for you
Is your heart aching too

Moments when our eyes have met
was like a fairy tale
A magic dance in the clouds
A laugh of child's play

Jon Swift
1997

Dynamite

Dynamite in my hands tonight,
lasers in my eyes,
explosions in my heart tonight
rising to the sky!

Careful where you look tonight
lest you catch on fire.
You might ride the sun tonight
and see the world up high.

The universe beams on us tonight
stars are shining bright.
Don't you hide from view tonight
keep nothing out of sight!

Let loose and fly tonight,
our hearts rising in flame.
Set your soul alight tonight
leaving all that's tame.

Rhythm is in my blood tonight
love is in my brain
my fingers pounding melody,
how true is the aim!

Jon Swift
October 10, 1989

13th Street

Ships passing in the night,
lovers pulled from each other's arms,
will we meet on a distant shore
brushing the salt from our lips,
or will our eyes close only on a memory?

Ice flows on the river cold
mirror a thousand points of light.
So many bright hearts of love
pierce the night to reach my eyes!

Rainbows in the clouds give hope
to an Earth-weary traveler.
Yes, my love,
someday I will rest
in the peaceful swell of your breath.

Jon Swift
January 14, 1989

Sleepy Rag

Hey dreamer, are you asleep?
Lookin for somethin, all week
Hangin on to what you can't keep.
Hey dreamer, watch that truck!

Got no insurance don't press your luck.

Hey worker gotta make that bread,
nine to five, untill you're dead.
Listen to what the boss man says.
Hey worker better learn to duck!

Follow the rules to make the buck.

Hey dreamer it's time to awake
there's nothin out here to be afraid of,
the sun is shinin, why don't you come out and play?

j. swift

©1996

Now Eye

soft jumps from leaf to leaf
sparkles wet and fragrant,
eyes old and young see
the transience in the dew

moving breeze in symphony
with spotlight on a dawning,
sound cascades in evergreen
to breath no small silence

thoughts dilute a canvas drawn
like the nights caress,
open dreams spring to bear
upon the eye of time

Jon Swift
2007

Inside Out

crickets harmony blends with waves
rushing over soft moist sand
leaves in the summer breeze tell me of
sounds within no sound
clouds caught in orange evening glow
sing of lights pure ecstasy
reflections cast on dancing waves
color lifes burble rythm
sweet fruits of inner being
offer a grateful taste
of who i am and of who i am becoming

my ears speak of what is and i hear eternity
my eyes paint beauty and i see perfection
i taste my hearts desire to be one
i breath the one breath of love
wise words spoken where i am not
gentle listening allows the heart freedom
timeless movement ripples across the stillness
with silence in its play

give in to loves embrace
forget the cause with no inspire
accept a bath of simple grace
expand to clear hearts breath
today is a new day

Jon Swift
2011

One Spark

within each heart a spark,
lives glowing ember reflected
in you and me and all

not seen with eyes,
not known with thought,
not spoken with words,
felt with quiet being

one spark kindles another,
a dancing flame is spread,
the gentle light shining magic

Jon Swift - 2020