

Poetry Series

Bernard Snyder
- poems -

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Bernard Snyder(11-07-1959)

Writing poetry has always been one of my favorite hobbies. After reading poems early on by the likes of William Shakespeare, Edgar Allan Poe, and Langston Hughes, just to name a few, I became fascinated with the art. I wanted the world to read my material with hopes, they'd find mine entertaining as well. I'm not sure how far I can go with this, but as long as I continue to live, I will always have a reason to write. Hopefully, my love and passion for the art is exemplified in my writing! Please check out my first published book 'A Part Of Me' vol.1, which was published in April 2009 at .

'A Black Beamer's Ride'

"A Black Beamer's Ride"

Her boldness and unique style
was the first thing that caught my eye,
I wasn't sure I could afford her
but I wanted anxiously, to test her drive,
the first quarter-mile
she drove rugged and rough
as if she'd been sitting way too long
or hadn't been driven as such,
as I increased the speed a bit
her engine started to 'purr'
as if she was saying 'drive me harder', Snyder
I'm built to handle the deep curves,
speeds got up so fast at times
it got really tough to breathe,
if I didn't have my hands on the wheel,
I could swear she was test driving me,
but as the ride came to a close
I couldn't help but turn and grin,
because there was a sign on the dash board
that read, 'Sir will you please drive me again'!

Bernard Snyder

A Letter For You

Today I found myself reflecting on the very first time you and I met. It gave me a reason to smile. I smiled not just because I was overwhelmed by your beauty, but equally impressive was the eloquence in which you spoke. You were like sunshine on a rainy day. You lit my inner self and gave me a sense of acknowledgment that angels do walk on earth. I didn't always believe in earth angels, but I always knew God has a way of allowing us to meet people that would give us a sense of intrigue, hope, and admiration. I find all of this in you. Contrary to popular belief, it is said that men don't usually pay attention to things. Well, maybe I am unique. Because as you slowly walked away, I noticed your not-in-any-rush pace, the rhythm in each step you took, I visibly measured your body measurements to a tee, I even tried to count every strand of hair on your eyebrows. However, my purpose wasn't to prove anyone wrong, but to grasp the confirmation that whenever someone encounters another as beautiful as you, finding the appropriate words to say would be easy. I'd like to seal this letter with a sense of hope. Hope that the world find you as attractive as I have. And if by chance this doesn't happen, it would give me hope that you may have been created just for me!

Bernard Snyder

'A Lonely Rose'

Something must've happened over time
no one seem to ever ask for me,
maybe I've lost my significance
or the world's going through a catastrophe,
maybe people don't love anymore
which would make me totally worthless
I may as well become extinct
for I have no other means or purpose,
no one says 'I love you' as I do
or put hearts together just for the hell of it,
but if I no longer have the same affect
what I once stood for is now irrelevant,
I just wanted to make a difference
and keep a smile upon a face
believe that I meant a lot more
than just another flower in a vase.

Bernard Snyder

'Ahead Of My Time'

Many, many years from now, when you and I are nothing more than two old angels soaring amongst the clouds, somewhere in America there will be a teacher or professor rewarding passing grades to any of his students who could identify for whom most of my poetry was written. Some will misspell your name, others would try researching your middle name only to discover it was never used. Meanwhile, you and I will be sharing a glass of wine on Pluto or Neptune, and laughing about those times people rode around in cars instead of spaceships, and how at one point folks were using cell phones to communicate with one another, not knowing their neighbors on Mars could hear everything they were saying. But more importantly, I will remember the very first time I saw you. How striking! We spoke on occasions. I remember telling you I thought you were the most beautiful woman on the planet, and that I would see you the exact same way if I saw you in another lifetime. You chuckled in disbelief and thought I was out of my mind. At that moment, I decided I would pray every day and night so that when you and I meet again years later, you would realize I wasn't out of my mind, just far ahead of my time. And I'm certain I would still see you on that day as I did way back then.

Bernard Snyder

All Of Me

I poured my heart out for you
and you knew it
you had me wrapped around your fingers
and you blew it,
It didn't matter how many women confronted me
It was always you I wanted standing in front of me,
but you just wanted the thrill
without commitment,
not much else mattered
as long as you were gettin' it,
but I want you to listen for a moment
and keep still,
I'm no longer interested in being
your cheap thrill,
I want something more promising
I can build on
have something to show for
once the thrill's gone,
maybe we'll meet again
in my next life
hopefully you'd want more
than just a sex life,
I can't say I won't miss you
but I gotta move on
you shouldn't have a problem finding someone
to get your groove on,
as for me
I'm now looking for longevity
not just someone to go to bed with me
and when I find her
she'll be treated royally
because I will be giving her all of me....
thoroughly.

Bernard Snyder

'Angel'

'Angel'

(The Beautiful One)

She has a gorgeous smile
that is charming and bright,
her eyes are so beautiful they seem to change colors
in the sunlight,
she has long black hair
that reaches her chest,
I wrote a song about her once called
'The Angel I kissed',
I remember her walking by
and how her looks always startled me
when she would ask 'how was I doing',
her voice moved every part of me,
I pray we'll meet again
and she remembers me as 'the stranger
that found her absolutely adorable
and instantly nicknamed her 'Angel! !

Bernard Snyder

'At Times'

At times I still think about
how you swept me off of my feet,
I remember telling myself to be careful
I even tried to move cautiously,
I used to look past your bad habits
because I wanted to work things out
I knew I wanted you to be my 'boo'
and I felt this without a doubt,
I remember asking you to marry me
even gave you a diamond ring,
at times I still get teary-eyed
when I reflect back on everything,
even though it's been a while
oddly, I find myself waiting for your call
and wondering if we'd still be together
if I had not wanted it all.

Bernard Snyder

'Behind The Smile'

I've always known she was taken
but something about her made me keep trying,
I used to flatter her with sweet pleasantries
knowing she would read between the lines,
I used to start a conversation with her
just to see her smile
a lot of times I made no sense at all
but she knew my intentions all the while,
I'm sure she knew exactly how I felt
as I reflect back on it now
but a beautiful smile of acknowledgment
was all she ever allowed,
I'm not sure which I adored most
her beauty or her style
or how would I react
if I knew the thinking behind her smile!

Bernard Snyder

Believe In Yourself

A lot of people will doubt your abilities. Some will even critique the path you chose to get to where you needed to go. Just make sure your determination outweighed the negativity.

Bernard Snyder

'Broken Pieces'

Sometimes we sort through the shattered pieces
with hopes of finding something still intact,
despite the excruciating pain we went through,
we always find ourselves looking back,
too often we allow our hearts to lead us
hoping for a second chance
putting our entire lives on 'hold'
when we should be trying to advance,
we get so 'caught up' thinking of the good times
that we forget how the bad times left us hurt and speechless
losing sight that all we have left
is memories and 'broken pieces.

Bernard Snyder

Choices

We all have choices in life

we can either accept things the way they are, change them to what we think they should be, or continue to envy people that changed things we didn't have the courage to.

Bernard Snyder

'Confessions'

I've made some mistakes
burned a few bridges,
got 'played' once or twice
by some vindictive witches (but that's okay)
I met a sly fox once
dressed in sheep's clothing,
she had very nice qualities
but she was way too controlling
it seems we were playing 'poker'
I saw the hand she was holding
when she 'started 'trippin' and tried to raise me'
I packed my bags and kept rolling (hadn't seen her since)
I've lost my share of cash
trying get-rich quick schemes
playing five lucky numbers
I'd envisioned in a dream,
only to find out hours later
nothing was ever what they seem
another 'drawing' had just passed
and those numbers never came, (but that was okay too)
I've even rolled the dice a few times
still lucky to be alive,
I went searching for 'hot' tens'
but all I found was 'snake eyes,
and even though this may sound strange
I feel it was a blessing in disguise
because I am much wiser person today
having survived the gambles and
wild rides!

Bernard Snyder

Dear Santa

Material things I would never ask of you
because I can get them on my own,
but I've got a friend that's fighting a battle
she can't win all alone,
I will always be in her corner
because that's what true friends do
but I realize I can't be there always
so here's what I need from you,
on Christmas, I want you to take her a ' box of happiness'
so that her heart remains warm and splendid
you can leave the gift-tag unsigned
I'm quite sure she'd know who sent it.

Bernard Snyder

Determined

If I have to travel all over the world
to obtain my goals,
run into all kinds of obstacles in the road (I won't be discouraged)
when I get half way
and things look dismal,
if I get spun around by tornadoes
and lose my cell phone signal (it won't matter)
and even when I've reached my destination
and people look at me as inferior,
I'm gonna maintain my composure
and let them read my material,
and once they realize my talent
and the crowd starts clappin'
I'm gonna play one of the songs for the non-believers
who said this would never happen.

Bernard Snyder

'Dreams Of Spain'

I keep having these dreams of being rich and famous,
living somewhere in Spain amongst total strangers,
owning a couple of night clubs in Barcelona,
investing my money and becoming a loner,
I also dream of owning property outside of Madrid
three to four acres, just for my kids,
but every time I start to get that adrenaline rush
I get so upset because I find myself waking up,
realizing it was only a dream
the scenarios kept changing
but it was always the same scene,
I'm really anxious to see this place called Spain
maybe there I'll find happiness, fortune and fame
and the best part about it
I might get to live my dream!

Bernard Snyder

'Eyes Wide Shut'

Be careful of always reaching for stars. You might just miss your blessing by overlooking the diamond' you just walked over.

Bernard Snyder

'Fallen Star'

I've won numerous batting titles
and 'MVP' rings,
by baseball standards
I've accomplished everything,
stadiums have sold out
in every city I've played,
but lately it's been my court battles
that has taken over the sports page,
I would rather be remembered for
all the good I've done,
the game-winning hits or
tape-measured home runs,
but I have to be realistic
and understand there is a stain,
that could tarnish my career
or add an asterisk by my name,
the judge said it would be a pity
and a darn right shame
if this ordeal end up costing me
my place in the 'Hall of Fame',
but I'll just have to accept that
because there's no one else to blame,
I'm not even sure
if my fans would look at me the same,
nonetheless, my fate sits
in the hands of a judge
who doesn't care about accolades
or my eight 'gold gloves',
I've got to face the truth
even though it's killing me inside
the very thing that brought out the best in me
may have also become my demise.

Bernard Snyder

'Finally'

I'm looking back at my past
through my rear view,
a lot of hardship and struggles
but I came through,
I used to aim for the stars
but I kept missing,
was told I'd never succeed
but I didn't listen,
the naysayers doubted me
but I kept fighting,
my intellect was questioned
still I kept writing,
finally, my records are being played
I've got producers all over me
wanting to be the first to say
they were the ones that discovered me,
I'm now getting 'red carpet' treatment
from CEO's who's just met me
dealerships are handing me keys
to their expensive 'Bentleys',
even though it sounds nice
almost too nice to be true
it's a lot more gratifying
because of all that I've been through
and what is even nicer is,
I can now look straight ahead
instead of reflecting on my past
through a dirty ole rear view!

Bernard Snyder

'For Me'

It's not a priority of mine
to try and fulfill your expectations of me,
I will never try and be someone you want
because I have my own goals and visions,
and more importantly, at the end of the day
I want to be able to look in the mirror
and feel proud, because I did things my way... for me!

Bernard Snyder

'From Me To You'

I've watched you travel back and forth
searching for your comfort zone,
instead of reaching out to lend a hand,
I let you stumble from home to home,
I went as far as promising you the world,
knowing it wasn't in my possession,
I really wanted to give my all
but I didn't trust my intuition,
when I first learned you'd found happiness
I didn't know exactly what to feel,
I congratulated you and wished you well,
but deep down I wanted you still,
I used to reflect back on what I'd lost
and regretted not fighting to make things right,
at times I even felt I was being punished
for foolishly losing not once, but twice,
to have been given another opportunity
this is far greater than any dream,
I know I'll have a better approach
because I know now how much this means.

Bernard Snyder

'Get@ Me'

"Get@ Me"

I want you to understand
I'm more than worthy,
there's more to me than writing songs
and poetry,
see I'm quite a gentleman
and I know how to treat a woman right
I won't ever forget your birthday,
your likes or dislikes,
see I'm old school'
I was raised differently from guys you've met
that's why I'm sure they're some things
I can surprise you with,
like taking you on cruises on a regular basis
visiting different countries
dining at exotic places,
shopping at fine stores throughout Beverly Hills
we can go anywhere in the world
depending on how you feel,
I'm not trying to impress you
I'm being honest and up front,
if I was your 'boo'
you could have whatever you want,
see I want to be the one
to change your cold perception about men
patiently walk with you until you're ready to love again,
so if you feel what I'm saying
and you would like to be happy
my points are well taken
you understand them exactly
then don't waste another minute baby
just come on and get at me!

Bernard Snyder

Got To Get Away

I'm sick and tired of the way I'm livin'
hanging' out all night
with different women,
I gotta slow down so I can finally breathe
for once try and relax so I can live my own dreams,
I want to 'chill out' on my balcony
and not worry about' some thug
running in the back of me,
trying to car-jack for my black 'benz,
then turn around and try to sell it back to my own friends,
this life's got me fed up
all my friends talkin' to me
telling me to keep my head up,
I got to get away from this misery
it's so bad I can't tell my true friends from my enemies,
I got to find a spot in the country-side
and trade my fast cars and women in for buggy rides..
I got to get away!

Bernard Snyder

'Hear Me'

I once sat in an audience
with elderly men,
I promised them I would die
and come back again,
some of them were smart to listen, others laughed
so I came to confirm all I said
shall come to past,
I appear before you today
in a sea of clouds
brought with me a rainbow
that could be seen for miles,
it's not that I'm arrogant
or like being feared,
I just want all to know I'll return
so get prepared.

Bernard Snyder

'Hmmm'

If anyone happens to run across my friend,
tell her 'I miss our conversations and the cute
'text messages' she used to send,
I've tried everything from email to
calling both her phones,
maybe she's going through something and
she'd just rather be left alone,
in any event, I hope all is well
and she's just somewhere having fun
and didn't take the wrong turn in the wilderness
and a young cat ended up getting her 'sprung',
and if that was the case
I wonder why she didn't keep her word,
that no matter how good or bad things got
she would never kick a true friend to the curb!
Hmmm! ! ! !

Bernard Snyder

'Hold My Hand'

I just want to say 'thank you', Lord
and know that I truly understand,
how lost I would've been
if you weren't holding my hand,
you've always filled my cup with everything
whenever it ran empty,
through you, I've had my share of opportunities in life
because you provided aplenty,
you've always made me so happy
whenever I was down or feeling 'blue'
you've always pointed me in the right direction
when I didn't have a clue,
so, I just want to say 'thank you' Lord
and I understand how blessed I really am,
even though you brought me through the toughest of times
I want you to continue to hold my hand!

Bernard Snyder

'How I Know'

I know because when I'm with you
I feel a warm sense of security,
when we hold hands, it seem 'time' freezes
just so we get to cherish each minute longer,
when you kiss me,
I'm reminded of how sweet and passionate
you've always been,
when I mention your name I'm told,
my smile is conspicuously brighter,
when I'm in your arms
I feel there's no other place in the world is as comfortable,
and what makes me so certain is,
whenever I look into your eyes,
I always 'know' with whom I'd like to spend the
rest of my life.

Bernard Snyder

Hurricane Kaitlyn

She came from the Midwest
six years ago to be exact,
she didn't pack heavy rains, gusty winds
or anything like that,
as a matter of fact
she was unusually laid back (for a hurricane)
she hung around
for a little more than a month
she discussed the things she likes
and the type of career she wants
I'd even looked at a few places
where I would treat her for lunch
but her time here was up
before the first meal was ever launched,
even though her stay was brief
the impact she had
left me 'soaked' and intrigued
I'd even wondered at times
was she actually 'feelin' me
or was I merely chosen
to help fulfill her fantasy.

Bernard Snyder

'I Listened'

You said I would never succeed
nor did I possess what it took,
you said I wasn't smart enough to comprehend
much less write a book,
you said I wouldn't amount to anything
and my 'idea of success' was all wrong,
you said my dreams were too farfetched
and that, I'd never write a hit song,
well, I sat and listen as you criticized me
but I kept my head towards the sky
and prayed that when I become successful,
you'd be able to look me in the eye,
I've since written over a thousand songs
at least 'half' will be 'top hits'
so I wonder has your perception of me changed
now that I'm filthy rich!

Bernard Snyder

If I Could Write

I would first glance over
my most treasured photograph
gather my thoughts
then jot down a few paragraphs (to talk about this lady)
I might go into details
about why I treasure her picture
fill out five or six lines
describing her physical features....or maybe not.
I might just dot my I's
make sure my T's are crossed
use metaphoric terms
to keep her facebook friends lost (because she likes her privacy)
then again I might just admit
writing isn't my thing
I gave it a shot but
all birds can't sing,
and even though I was awful
with this paper and pen,
I still came out a winner
because the lady in this pic'
is somewhere smiling.

Bernard Snyder

'If I Had A Son'

I would sit him down and tell him to include God in everything he does first and foremost. I would then remind him how important it is to get a good education. I would tell him there will come a time when he must make decisions in life all on his own, so I'd like him to be able to listen to his heart and trust his intuition. I would tell him to treat people with the utmost respect but don't let them walk over him. I would tell him under no circumstance should he hit a woman, because it would show a lack of respect for her and a sign of weakness in him as a man. If I had a son I would look him in his eyes and tell him of the many mistakes I've made, with hopes he won't make the same ones.

I would speak to him about this imperfect world we live in and how he must learn to adapt and act accordingly. I would tell him no one is perfect and we all make mistakes, but it is very important to learn from each one. I would tell my son to always listen, because it would allow him to see things from different perspectives. I would remind him that all friends aren't necessarily his friend and how he'd be able to distinguish the difference in time of need. I would speak to him emphatically about morals and values. I would tell him to pray often because prayer changes things. I would tell my son to always have 'faith' because things won't always go his way, but with faith, he would have a reason to keep his head up. I would speak to my son about 'peer pressure' and how insignificant material things are compared to the way he conducts himself in his every day 'walk of life'. I would alarm him that he might be stereotyped, not because of who he is, but simply because of the color of his skin. I would tell him whatever he chooses to be in life, try and be the best at it. And when he finally asks me about love, I will say to him 'now is when you should listen to your heart!'

Bernard Snyder

I'M The One For You'

I will always stand by your side
even if the whole world was against you,
I would plant you a garden of roses
if I thought it would convince you,
I would pamper you every day and night
without you even asking,
I'd make sure your hair and nails are done,
and keep you dressed in the latest fashions,
I know this sounds a bit extraordinary
but nothing I've said is out of reach,
I'll show you that I'm the one for you
and back up everything that I preach,
also, I'd never do anything to make you doubt me
or have you question my commitment,
you would always know that I'm totally into you
even more so when I'm hittin' it,
and anything your little heart desires
I can guarantee you'll be gettin' it
because as long as you know I'm the one for you
I don't care if the entire world is listening.

Bernard Snyder

'Imagine'

Imagine if I were closer to you
and could see you on a regular basis,
Imagine if something were to happen
where your friend and I would have to trade places,
that would make my world so complete,
because then, I'd be able to exemplify
all the things I promise you in my songs
I could then do them right before your eyes,
imagine me in such a position
that if you even whispered I'd hear
imagine if I took all of your doubts of me
and simply make them disappear,
imagine if we didn't have to imagine
and you were at my reach,
I would supply you with so much joy in a day
that it would overflow into weeks.
Imagine that!

Bernard Snyder

In The Shadows

I've been searching for the sunshine
because all of my days have been gloomy,
I'm trying to forget about my past life
because all it does is consume me
I'm constantly burdened by skeletons
overwhelmed by the darkness
I prefer to live in solitude
cause everyone around me seems heartless,
I would like to escape from this misery
and never look back at this
but I'm so overcome by the shadows
I've grown accustomed to unhappiness!

Bernard Snyder

'In Too Deep'

A lot of times we allow ourselves to get caught up in awkward situations, to the point where everything seems vague and complex. But as soon as we take a few steps back, it is then we find clarity and understanding. Often times in order to move forward, we must step back to get a better sense of direction.

Bernard Snyder

Life'

I assess my life as if it were a rose:
Despite the many thorns.....
it's still beautiful!

Bernard Snyder

'Mistakes'

I'm not perfect by any stretch
I've made mistakes with many regrets,
I've burned bridges I shouldn't have crossed
for which I had to pay a price
four times what it actually cost,
but I've since grown
and learned in the process
that living a perfect life is
unheard of and farfetched,
so I've taken those mistakes
and all the bridges I've burned
try to build from it all
and just consider them 'lessons learned.

Bernard Snyder

'My Bad'

I'm saddened and totally confused
not knowing where she's gone,
my days have all been cloud-filled
my nights hasn't been as warm,
hopefully she's somewhere safe
enjoying life and doing just fine
I hope she understands that I miss her
and I think of her all the time,
unfortunately, I don't think I will ever see her again
the thought alone is awfully sad,
but I may as well be realistic
and just cherish the times we've had
if by chance I get lucky enough
to once again cross her path
I would tell her, she was the ideal mate
I just didn't realize what I had.

Bernard Snyder

'Not Just Yet'

'Not Just Yet'

Sometimes I feel I'm running on empty
my heart has given all it can give,
it has been abused so many times before
at times I wonder how it still lives,
part of me would like to try love again
because there's so much I really miss,
but as soon as I feel I'm ready to commit
I realize my fears outweigh the risks,
so then I creep back into my little shell
and put my heart safely in its cage,
I know I'll eventually give in one day
but right now I'm just too afraid!

Bernard Snyder

'On Christmas

I'm going to purchase the finest bottle of wine
then prepare a gourmet dinner
have the table elegantly set
with two candles in the center,
I will have rose petals throughout the hall way
scented candles all along the stairs
a couple of logs burning in the fireplace
just in case my queen appears,
if I should happen to be so lucky
and she emerges from one of my dreams
I'm going to take her by the hand
then sing about what this means,
but if this Christmas is like all the others
where she still isn't crossed off from my wish list
I'm going to wine and dine the night away
and pray she shows up after Christmas.

Bernard Snyder

'One Day'

I'll have a house on the hills
with a three-car garage,
a panoramic view
so I can write under the stars,
finally enjoy life
and do things my way,
own two sport cars,
with a 'Bentley'
in the driveway,
one day', I'll know exactly
how it feels,
to shop at fine gift shops
along 'Beverly Hills',
experience what it's like
to have lunch in Paris,
find someone I loved enough
to even talk marriage,
I'm gonna live happily
and provide my kids needs
live amongst movie stars
and famous celebrities,
but in order for me
to keep this real and exciting
I'll have to stay focused
and never stop writing.

Bernard Snyder

Out Of My Hands

I've been fighting with a bit of uncertainty lately
not sure how far this songwriting and poetry will take me,
I feel if my CD' doesn't sell
or my books never reach the 'top ten'
part of me will even start believing
what the naysayers were saying back then,
but somehow my heart still has confidence
and believe there's a bright spot for me
that I will one day be mentioned
in the same breath with Shakespeare or Jay-Z,
but even if this doesn't happen
I'm staying true to my first plan
to do everything in my power to succeed
then leave the rest in God's hands.

Bernard Snyder

'Overwhelmed'

We often travel a path of uncertainty
unsure of what lies ahead,
we find someone that really intrigues us,
but our heart isn't quite prepared,
so we contemplate back and forth
so afraid it could be a mistake,
we'd like to know where the road may lead us
but we're overwhelmed with so little faith,
we look for signs that would give us some idea
but everything seem so vague,
a part of us would like to at least 'try'
the other part too afraid,
so we think it's best to just walk away
and not ever know if the pieces fit,
we were so overwhelmed by fear,
we didn't even have the heart to take the risk.

Bernard Snyder

'Problems'

These problems of late,
seem to be getting the best of me,
my mind is so exhausted
I'm not sure it'll catch up with the rest of me,
at times I feel like
I'm buried in quick-sand,
even my bad days seem
like extended weekends,
when I try to be rational,
some people seem to get mad at me,
so I have to get lost sometimes
just to maintain my sanity,
my disappearing helps for a moment
but then reality kicks in,
I know when I wake up in the morning
I'm faced with problems again.

Bernard Snyder

Questions (Of A Soldier)

Was that my last meal I just ate
or does it even matter,
will I awake in the morning
and if so, what about the morning after,
have I seen my family for the last time
I think not, but it's been three years
I have all of these unanswered questions
but I'm not sure anyone's listening' or cares,
I've been fighting in this crazy war for so long
that I forgot my reason why
maybe I'll get my answers when this is over
if I'm lucky and still alive,
and let's say I'm still alive
will I remember or will anyone remember me
or will it just read 'He served his country well'
but now have schizophrenic tendencies.

Bernard Snyder

'Reflection'

You become more appreciative of the sunshine,
when you reflect back on the 'thunderstorms' in your lifetime.

Bernard Snyder

Relationships

Relationships aren't easy. No one ever said they would be. People involved should know that every day won't be rosy. They're going to be times where the two of you won't see eye to eye, pain might even come your way to test your commitment to each other. Just know that the only way to get over that pain is to go through it. Once you've persevered and shown you have something worth fighting for, your heart will know you have something worth working with.

Bernard Snyder

Remember

Always remember that I adore you
and care about you tremendously,
even though your heart is elsewhere
I still think of you endlessly,
remember how I pampered you
even made sure you ate properly,
I wouldn't have put forth the effort
if I didn't mean it wholeheartedly,
so when I think back on everything
there's nothing I would've done differently
I just want the very best for you
and hope that you will remember me.

Bernard Snyder

Remembering The Hood

I was constantly surrounded by
chaos and mayhem,
crackheads would ring my doorbell
two and three o'clock in the am,
street-walkers would pass through
on their nightly stroll,
I remember drug-dealers trying to convince teens
that 'hustlin' was more prominent than long term goals,
and I definitely can't forget the girl on the corner
that called me rude and said I acted funny,
because I wouldn't buy the 'cookies' she was selling
knowing it was just a cop-out for drug money,
as I look back years later
I realize in some way, we were all 'strugglin'
some of us were just more determined
to make a better life that meant something,
even though I've gone
I wouldn't trade my past life for nothing
and I would still lend a helping hand
to those same folks because
deep down, I'll always love em!

Bernard Snyder

'Remembering Where I Came From'

If I were to stumble upon success
acquire fortune and fame,
become a songwriting sensation
possess my very own airplane (that would be so cool)
but it would all be for not
if I suddenly start to change
get caught up in a lifestyle
of flamboyance and material things,
lose sight of what's important
like family and true friends
but I can promise this won't ever happen
because I know exactly who I am
and how much of a disgrace it would be
if I forget the road from which I came.

Bernard Snyder

'Rumors'

They get started by certain people
that run their mouths without the facts,
they take a story they've overheard
and begin to add to it or subtract,
now the original story gets 'twisted'
and the believers are agitated
because the stories they've just been told
has been completely fabricated,
now everyone starts pointing fingers
placing the blame here and there,
when they all should've kept in mind
you can't believe everything you hear.

Bernard Snyder

'Scorned'

She constantly reminds me
she is a woman scorned,
her heart has been abused
and severely torn (but I want her nonetheless)
see the oddity of it all is
she thinks I'm attractive
she likes my qualities
but the matter of fact is (she's afraid to trust anyone)
so I thought I'd take her hand
and walk with her slowly
give her an opportunity
to really get to know me,
but every once in a while
I tend to get a lil' 'frisky',
I 'll whisper in her ear hoping
she'd lean over and kiss me, (but she keeps her space)
I seriously think
she would like to cross the line
let her hair down a little
and show me she's really trying,
but instead of engaging
in anything that might leave her weak,
she always end the night early
with a pleasant 'kiss' on my cheek!

Bernard Snyder

'Sea Of Envy'

This ocean I've been swimming in
seem awfully cold and harsh,
at times I feel I'm just a tadpole
being chased by 'killer sharks,
It seems whenever I get a break
and finally start to prosper,
I'm constantly being talked about
by a sea of jealous lobsters,
I try hard to ignore them though
so I wouldn't get thrown off track,
but then out of nowhere comes a dozen Blue Crabs
thinking of ways to hold me back,
the Clams' always smiling in my face
but I can see the envy in their eyes
they're always tying an anchor around my legs
to make sure that I don't rise,
even though I fight through the frustrations
and continue to persevere
I wonder how I still see my dreams at times
when my eyes are so full of tears!

Bernard Snyder

'Shhh'

It seems I'm wearing an ugly mask
and playing a different part,
I want to show you off to my friends
but we have to hide in the dark,
those who knows criticize our judgements
and think we've lost our minds,
they look at our age difference
and say this can't be by design,
to some degree they have a point
but life has different stages,
what you and I seem to enjoy
other folks think is crazy,
so now we find ourselves being looked at
because you left the door ajar
you asked other people their opinions
and things got way too bizarre,
so now, the one thing we can do
being that everyone else seem to have lost it,
in order for us to keep enjoying the ride
let's keep what we do in the closet.

Bernard Snyder

Simple Man

I'm thrilled with the small things in life
and I don't need a lot of notoriety,
any thing that I do
I do it smooth and quietly,
I'm not into the glamorous lifestyle
or the high level of prestige
I may not have the luxury cars
however, I can get whatever I need,
you won't find me asking for 'hand-outs'
because I don't live beyond my means
I don't believe in a whole lot of excess
just the bare necessities.

Bernard Snyder

'So Into Her'

She always walks away
like a fool, I let her back in,
thinking that 'this time' she might stay,
but the same things keep happening,
I'm so sick and tired of her
and her wicked naughtiness,
I want to leave her alone so bad
but it's painfully obvious,
I'm so into her that,
I find myself getting accustomed to
the silly games she plays each week,
really though, it's nothing new,
she's been gone for a 'minute' now
but I know she'll be calling soon
she'll have a brand new excuse
but really, its the same ole tune,
I'll listen to her story
and I'll have my share of doubt,
but I'd rather have her to listen to
than to go on without!

Bernard Snyder

'Somehow'

Somehow I still hear her voice
wherever I go,
strangely, I still smell her perfume
whenever the wind blows,
I thought this was peculiar
because this happens every day,
I would understand it a lot better
if she didn't live so far away.

Bernard Snyder

'Sometimes'

Sometimes when you've done all you can do
and you realize the one you love isn't in love with you,
instead of foolishly hanging on,
it's best to pack your bags and move along,
the thought of changing may seem unnerving
but there's someone else out there more deserving,
at first you might feel a bit disappointed
because you couldn't have who you really wanted,
but sometimes you have to try a different scene
get away from the same routine,
'father time' will heal your wounds
the next person will play the right tunes',
you just have to persevere through the pain
in time', your attitude will start to change,
your life will seem to flow a lot smoother
you'll no longer give a dam' about that other loser,
your smile will have a brighter gleam
you'll feel a higher level of self-esteem,
you're now feeling good once again
you're happier than you've ever been,
see sometimes, just because you fell
doesn't mean your world will be a living hell
it's because you've traveled a troubled path
you can now appreciate what you have.

Bernard Snyder

Spinning

As I sit here
my head is still spinning
wondering why did you change
from the person I met in the beginning,
was it my mild demeanor
that brought about this attitude
even when you did me wrong
I laid back and laughed at you,
now you're ranting to your friends
about how things were so one sided,
because when we parted ways
I didn't get all excited,
so much time has passed since
and I thought all was forgiven
but the fact that you were the one that
messed up in the first place
really has my head spinning.

Bernard Snyder

Stereotyped'

You want me to be a supporting cast
because you don't think I can lead,
you look at me as inferior
because that's what you were taught to believe
I try to get memberships at your elite clubs,
but you say 'I won't fit in,
instead of checking my background
you look at the color of my skin,
I take my 'blue-eyed sister' out for lunch
you say 'I must be trying to steal her
if I wore 'dreadlocks or carried a 'backpack',
you'd label me as a drug dealer,
I try to show different ways of doing things
you say 'none of them would ever work',
simply, because the ideas were mine,
you feel so humiliated that it hurts,
you know, I wasn't really a bad person
hell, you might've become a fan,
if you'd taken a few steps 'outside the box'
and given me a fair chance.

Bernard Snyder

'Still'

Truthfully, I wanted to be more than a friend to you
by now, that is probably an easy guess,
I wanted to fill your days and nights with joy
and never-ending happiness,
I wanted to listen to your sorrows
and replace your pain with thrills,
and if any of this were up to me
I'd want this whole thing still,
however, I know this isn't what you want right now
in your own little way it's been subtly stated
it wouldn't have been fair to me to offer the world
and the feelings not be reciprocated.

Bernard Snyder

'Still Standing'

When I look at the road from which I came
and the bridges I had to cross
the mountains I was asked to climb
and rivers I swam across,
it doesn't seem likely
I would still be able to stand
adversity kept me on my knees constantly
but it also made me who I am.

Bernard Snyder

'Sunken Ships'

They're gone but never forgotten
abandoned out at sea,
some severely beaten by past storms
others stuck in misery,
my heart would like to bring them ashore
and rebuild their shattered dreams
give them a renewed sense of hope
so they can gracefully sail again,
but in the midst of wanting to do good
I enjoy living drama free
so instead of fighting with those other pirates
I've decided to just let them be.

Bernard Snyder

'Swimming With A Shark'

She tried to warn me
right from the start,
she said she had a friend
that had stolen her heart,
even though I was warned from the very beginning
I liked her so much I kept right on swimming,
I know winning her over would be tough to do
so, when she gave me an opening
I slipped right through,
Now that I'm in
the water seemed to have gotten deeper,
I'm not so sure
that she's a real keeper,
I think she swims along
plays her part,
but she can't 'feel'
because she doesn't have a heart,
I've even thought about backing off
so, maybe she could find
the soulmate she'd lost,
but I also know that she really needs me
and swimming away from her
isn't quite so easy,
but so often I ask myself
what role do I play
am I just another 'fish'
or am I standing in the way,
I hate being confused from one day to the next,
feels like I'm tangled up
in a fisherman's net,
a part of me would like to leave
and get out of the dark
but there's the other side
thats madly in love with the shark

Bernard Snyder

'Talking Trash On South Beach'

"Talking Trash on South Beach";

When I first mentioned
I was getting out of Cleveland
to join another team
with a few players I believed in (I heard a lot rumors)
folks were saying we couldn't win
no one would believe in us
Chicago and Boston was unbeatable
we lack cohesiveness
and it only got worse
as sub-par teams started beating us.....
but we came together as a team
found our stride,
started believing in one another
pushed our egos aside
we stopped listening to rumors
played our own tune
four and a half months later
we were playing in June (for a championship)
we didn't get to win it all
I guess it was way too soon
but one thing is for certain
we proved all those naysayers wrong.

Bernard Snyder

The Perfect Poem

I contemplated repeatedly
before I started to write this,
I wasn't sure I would get her attention
or if my words would seem lifeless,
I look at her picture
filled with beauty and brightness
my mind feels she's so distant
but my heart says ' I like this'
metaphorically I'm just an eagle
talons tied and flightless
but if I had her by my side
my life would not only be perfect
it would be priceless.

Bernard Snyder

The Red Rose

To have stumbled upon you is truly a blessing. Your beauty is comparable to that of an evening sunset, equally as pleasing to the eyes as music is to one's ears. If I only had two wishes left on earth, they would be to become the arms that hold you at night and be the vase that protects you for as long as you are alive. I would keep you nourished by every sense of the only to provide you strength, but also to allow you to grow and understand what it's like to enjoy living. See, I don't look at you as just another flower, I see you as 'the red rose'. Which, in comparison to all the other flowers in the universe, you are by far the most beautiful.

Bernard Snyder

The Right One

'When the right person walks into your life, you will forget you were once too afraid to love. This person will give you a sense of comfort you've never experienced in your entire life. He will make you feel as if you're the most beautiful person in the universe. He will remember most, if not all, significant dates pertaining to you. He will stand by your side through adversity. He will listen as you tell the same stories you've told him numerous times, not because they're interesting, but because he simply likes being in your presence. He will love you unconditionally. And the most telling evidence that he's the one will be, not only will you be able to appreciate him, but you will be willing to genuinely love him in return.

Bernard Snyder

The Teaser

When I look back
at all the missed chances,
the wilted roses
and numerous advances...(I realize)
even if I'd place
the entire world in her palms
made her the exclusive topic
in every one of my songs....(it wouldn't have mattered)
because the fact remained
we weren't on the same page
I wanted us to become one
she felt I was trying to invade,
so I would throw my hands in the air
turn to walk away,
but she would slowly reel me back in
using provocative word-play....(oh she was good at it too)
she said something to me once
that stayed on my mind
she said 'she could make the sun rise'
twice before lunchtime,
I'm sure she was hypothetically speaking
still I found it awfully impressive
so I started sending more and more roses
to show I was intrigued by the message..... (but the flowers would always come
back)
so I finally came to my senses
'threw in the towel'
I realized she was just a tease
that didn't care much about flowers
nor was I her 'cup of tea'
or the one she'd show off to her 'homies'
I just happen to be the subject
she liked for 'amusement purposes only.

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Bernard Snyder

The Wind Beneath My Wings

When my time here on earth expires
I won't have any regrets,
because by having met you
I was finally given the opportunity to know what
'floating on air' truly mean't.
In so many ways you gave so many reasons why
I felt I could touch the sky.
I am content knowing what it felt like
to have been loved.
Because of you
my willingness to give love became easy.
In the event we never cross paths again
I will take the part of your heart you gave me
to share with the angels above..
as a token that would explain
why, at one point in my previous life..
I was able to fly.

Bernard Snyder

Tied To A String

I feel like I'm waist-deep in this jungle
trapped in a cougar's den,
I'm trying desperately to find an exit
but these two cats got me locked in,
the one to my left is awfully demanding
she likes her 'milk' three times a day
the one behind me is more laid back
she gets fed and goes about her way,
Needless to say, I admire them both
because they're different yet somewhat the same
but I realize I'm runnin' on pure adrenaline
trying to 'burn the candles' at both ends,
so one part of me would like to get out of this jungle
walk away while I still can
but my 'wild side' likes the idea of having
two cats so attached to one string.

Bernard Snyder

'To Me'

When I look at you,
I see the true meaning of beauty,
it isn't just because your smile is so gorgeous
it's because your engaging personality
compliments that smile, which to me
makes you without question, the most
beautiful person I've ever met.

Bernard Snyder

'Wake Up', People

There's a tragedy all around us
everywhere we seem to turn,
we hear of thousands of people being killed
tons of acres being burned,
we now have cruise lines constantly sinking
at such an alarming rate,
we try to get our answers on Sundays
but even our pastor is losing faith,
we're fighting in this crazy war
which I don't think we'll ever win,
we try to take our kids to dinner
but the prices at the gas pump keeps us in,
we now have Earthquakes ripping through China
Tsunamis and Cyclones burying Japan
yet your biggest fear of all is
the reality of America being led by a black man

Bernard Snyder

'What I Would Do' (To Please You)

First of all, I would take the time out
to find out, what makes you smile,
I would also go that extra mile
every once in a while
to show you I'm worthwhile,
I would take the memories from your horrid past
throw them in the ocean
with killer sharks and crabs (just to prove that your bad days are gone forever)
I would then take you with me
back to the 'deep blue'
show you that every wish you ever imagined can become true,
your cloudy days would never again be gray, they'd be sky blue
and every thing you ever wanted in a man
is standing here before you.

Bernard Snyder

'What If

What if everything we've ever done in the dark was secretly recorded,
What if the culprits behind every rumor
got prosecuted for all the controversy they started,
What if 'walls could talk' and told us
everything that goes on behind closed doors,
Would we then try and keep our own houses clean
or continue worrying about what you're doing in yours,
What if we could find out what folks say about us
by the 'flick of a light switch
Will we constantly overreact or
let it slide off our backs as if it
were nothing more than a flake from an ice chjp,
and what if governor Romney didn't make that stupid comment
about the 'other' forty-seven' percent,
we might have a leader that only cares about half the people
as our president,
luckily, these thoughts came about
while my mind was still adrift
none of these things will ever happen
but it does scare me when I think...what if!

Bernard Snyder

'Whatever'

Whenever you let me in
your little corner,
we can do whatever
anytime you wanna,
I know you're a bit younger
but what's the fuss,
it's about hangin' out
see, that's what's up,
we can shoot a lil' pool
eight-ball or nine
I might even let you win
so you won't start crying(ha, ha)
or we could get a small table
have the candles lit,
drink a few 'white russians'
or that expensive shit,
but if you hate that idea
and you have one better
it's really up to you
we can do whatever,
a night out on the town
is what I'm hoping,
but if you wanna take it further
my night's wide open
but hurry up and decide
because my pool que' is smoking!

Bernard Snyder

'Where The Truth Lies'

She calls herself an independent woman
so what am I to think,
when she sits next to me at the bar
and asks me to pay for drinks,
she says she doesn't kiss on 'first dates'
but isn't it strange,
that raspberry flavored lipstick
has left quite a stain,
she lift my shirt and feels my 'six-pack'
and says 'she's not impressed,
yet she smiles and get her camera
as soon as I undress,
she considers me to be a 'playboy'
and says, she's never liked my kind,
but takes me home and get real 'kinky'
then say, it's her first time,
so when I 'flip the script' and tell her 'she's the 'best'
the reason she feels its untrue,
because she's been 'frontin' for so long
it's hard to tell a lie from the truth!

Bernard Snyder

'Why I Do What I Do'

"Why I Do What I Do";

They are a few reasons why
I do what I do,
I only have one life to live
so I live as I choose,
I know if I were to fall,
they'd be some that would judge me,
instead of offering me a hand
they would first try to mug me,
I know if I came to you
and mentioned I was in dire need,
you would say you couldn't help me
then talk about me when I leave,
that is why I work diligently
to keep my bankroll intact
so I won't have to ask you
then have you talk behind my back,
I don't like negativity
that is why I travel alone,
I don't follow trendsetters
I make a path of my own,
to avoid drama and jealousy
I mingle with the averages,
to stay free of gossip
I stay the hell away from scavengers,
and why you'll never see me ride with the devil
because I only trust God as my passenger.

Bernard Snyder

'Why I Love You'

I love you because you're the other half
that makes me whole,
when we're apart
I feel helpless and out of control,
when we're together united as one,
you make me feel I can reach out
and wrap my arms around the sun,
when I'm with you
I don't feel any sense of pressure,
I'm completely secure
and I feel very, very special,
and if that isn't enough
to answer why I love you so,
I can easily write another page
but I would hate to ruin the flow.

Bernard Snyder

Wild Flower

Much like the rose that grew
from the cracks of concrete,
I was also disregarded
and walked over repeatedly
some folks had even predicted
that I would fail immensely
because the odds weren't in my favor
and the cards were stacked against me,
but I kept my belief
in the talent God had given me
applauded the naysayers
for unknowingly giving me a burst of energy
because if it had not been for them
and those negative comments I had to withstand
I'm not sure I would've been so driven
to become the blossoming wild flower that I am.

Bernard Snyder

Will You Remember Me

As I travel on this journey
trying to broaden my horizons
to become a best-selling author
or songwriter on the rising (will you remember me)
when you hear my lyrics
as they're being played on the radio
will you remember me joking about
adding you in my video,
or would you even smile
or vaguely remember my name
or would the memories by then
have long faded in the wind
or would you just smile and simply say
'I remember him when'!

Bernard Snyder

'Without You'

The love songs I used to sing for you
now just seem like shattered words,
the white doves that followed us along the beaches
now seem like ordinary birds,
the sunshine doesn't seem as bright anymore
the moonlight seem to have lost it's glow,
the ocean I once thought was so smooth and romantic
now has an unusual flow,
the raindrops we used to listen to
no longer has that pleasant tone,
nothing seems to be what it used to
since you've been gone,
I've tried everything I could think of
but nothing's the same without you
I just want to enjoy the beautiful things in life again
the way you and I once used to.

Bernard Snyder

'You'

</>I've sailed around the world twice

I've sailed around the world twice
I've swam in the Caribbean seas
I've seen the sunset over many beaches
I've even dated celebrities,
I've shaken hands with former presidents
I've been taken to places I hardly knew,
but nothing was ever so breath-taking
than the day I first saw you,
not only were you so beautiful
you spoke with such eloquence
in all my worldly travels
I haven't met anyone like you since
I've been asked many times
which has the most memorable view
I've seen a lot of fascinating things
but nothing as captivating as you.

Bernard Snyder