

Lament of an "almost" (trans)

by Clyde Bevell

1/75

I have been guilty of passing the "GRANTIA Book
 lightly thro my mind.
 Sometimes its prescient words have
 thunderously awakened me.
 Its brilliance has sometimes briefly blinded me.
 And its Jesusonian love has melted me.
 But always I have recovered quickly--
 and bent my mind and back anew to
 little matters of markets and meals,
 and tires and taxes and the tinselled trimmings
 of life that pass in and out
 the doors of my consciousness.
 Yet--none of these are important enough
 to record in a sculpture of stone
 or a painting in bright colors
 to furnish and brighten
 the too barren gallery of my soul.

In this hour, pondering again
 the inexpressible wonders of the Book--
 I felt time racing tumultuously
 thro the ageing calendar of my veins.
 I faltered at my tick tack work
 --presumably important--
 and saw as in mirage its wavering worth.
 "I must", I said, "get my priorities in order".
 The hints I've had!
 --a burst of light in darkness,
 an electrical invasion of my soul's depths,
 a flooding response to some small kindness,
 a rainbow of celestial music in my heart!
 All these suggest that just beyond my fingertips
 are truth, beauty, and goodness.
 mysteriously freighted with flavor, fragrance,
 and sustenance, for a thirsting soul.

Why have I not seen more clearly that as You
 have translated the symphonies of Paradise itself
 for us in our Great Book--
 we cannot hold them to echo forever in our memories
 unless we orchestrate them in our personal way
 into brotherly daily touching of other lives
 with words and actions!
 ...For these others too, in the human state,
 suffer the malady that deadens us--
 our preoccupation with everything
 that doesn't matter.

This be my resolve: I'll honor more resolutely
 the Book's so simple, yet transcendent truth--
 that everyone I see or meet or hear about
 is in truth--MY BROTHER!
 And in each day's relationships it will be I
 who lets each know by attitude and word and action!
 Dear God! Life is too short to enjoy all my brothers!
 How have I so long been needlessly impoverished--
 fraternally and spiritually?

For next
 copywriter
 J. H. V.

Julia to
 of
 we
 J. H. V.

Check & Ellen,

4-10-78

by Clyde Russell 1/78

Please use this by Clyde - I think it will reach everyone who reads it. - surely reached me!
Also please guard & retain this copy as it has her permission on lower right corner.
Julia

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OK to
use this
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