

POEM OF THE WEEK

CARPE DIEM

*"The Latin phrase **carpe diem** translates literally to "pluck the day" and is commonly interpreted in English as "**seize the day**". It means living in the present moment, enjoying today, and making the most of current opportunities instead of worrying about an uncertain future."*

• 1 -

*Carpe Diem! Seize the day! Pluck the day.
Embrace a day, make it your own
Engage with it and make it your own
Time passes; days follow days
Weeks chase weeks. Time elapsed
becomes time lost
becomes the past*

*The process of coping remains in motion!
It's more of a drunken stumble than a walk.
I couldn't feel, so I learned to talk.*

*It is a naive, desperate, stubborn (absurd?) act of Will
to say "No!", to cling to hope -
however small and battered it may be -
to embrace, without question or pause,
the ragged remnants of all that is loving.*

*That is our contradiction, our challenge, our quest,
to embrace the challenge and unpredictability of life;
acknowledge the certainty of Death; to defiantly proclaim.
"Not Yet!" To weather the Foe's mocking, pregnant pause
- rife with phantasms and terrors yet unborn.*

HOPE

• 2 -

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The Will would ask,

*“Why do I proclaim such an imperative on hope:
and the reasonable expectation of the inevitability of the return of hope?”
To not do so would be to surrender to - and drown in -
the ocean of despair that calls one
syrup-sweet and siren-like to oblivion!*

*To have reason to believe that hope is achievable
and hope that the application of reason is a pathway
to experience the re-birth of hope.
That is our reasonable (or otherwise) request
We will celebrate our shared humanity!
We will sing our fractured song of praise.
We will shout our lonely “Hallelujah!”
We, the living: unpredictable, inconsistent,
perverse (even) as we may be
in our faltering yet stubborn adherence
to an absurd faith in the power of Love and Life.*

SURRENDER?

• 3 -

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*We have a final line of defence.
We create, we procreate; dream impossible dreams
- and do our best to make them happen.
To act, thus, is evidence of our refusal to submit
We share, record and transmit those things we value.
We influence, argue; agree and disagree.*

*We assimilate and accommodate
information and experiences as we grow individually and collectively.
In such a collective consciousness is our power.
as one passes the (sometimes, barely flickering)
torch of hope to another.*

THERE WILL BE MORE

• 4 -

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*There will be more battles, more stunned silence:
more admonishment of the collective components
of “Who” and “What” we are, to hold firm and resolute.
This time, the Will can face the Foe; challenge it;
hold up a battered bridal bouquet, and say,
“Death, where is thy sting?”*

I will be immortal, treasured and sustained

in the loving thoughts and memories of others.
I can face my nemesis, and say:
I can and will make a difference.