

Desiderata



Go placidly amid the noise and the haste,
and remember what peace there may be in silence
As far as possible without surrender
be on good terms with all persons...
Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others,
even to the dull and the ignorant, they too have their story...
Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with
yourself. You are a child of the universe, no
less than the trees and the stars: you have a
right to be here. And whether or not it is clear
to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as
it should."

Avoid loud and aggressive persons,
they are vexations to the spirit.
If you compare yourself with others,
you may become vain and bitter;
for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.
Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.

Keep interested in your own career, however humble;
it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.
Exercise caution in your business affairs;
for the world is full of trickery.
But let this not blind you to what virtue there is;
many persons strive for high ideals;
and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself.
Especially, do not feign affection.
Neither be cynical about love;
for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment
it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years,
gracefully surrendering the things of youth.
Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune.
But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings.
Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.
Beyond a wholesome discipline,
be gentle with yourself.

