

Straight from the Heart

OUR WORLD IN POETRY

John MORGAN Mullen



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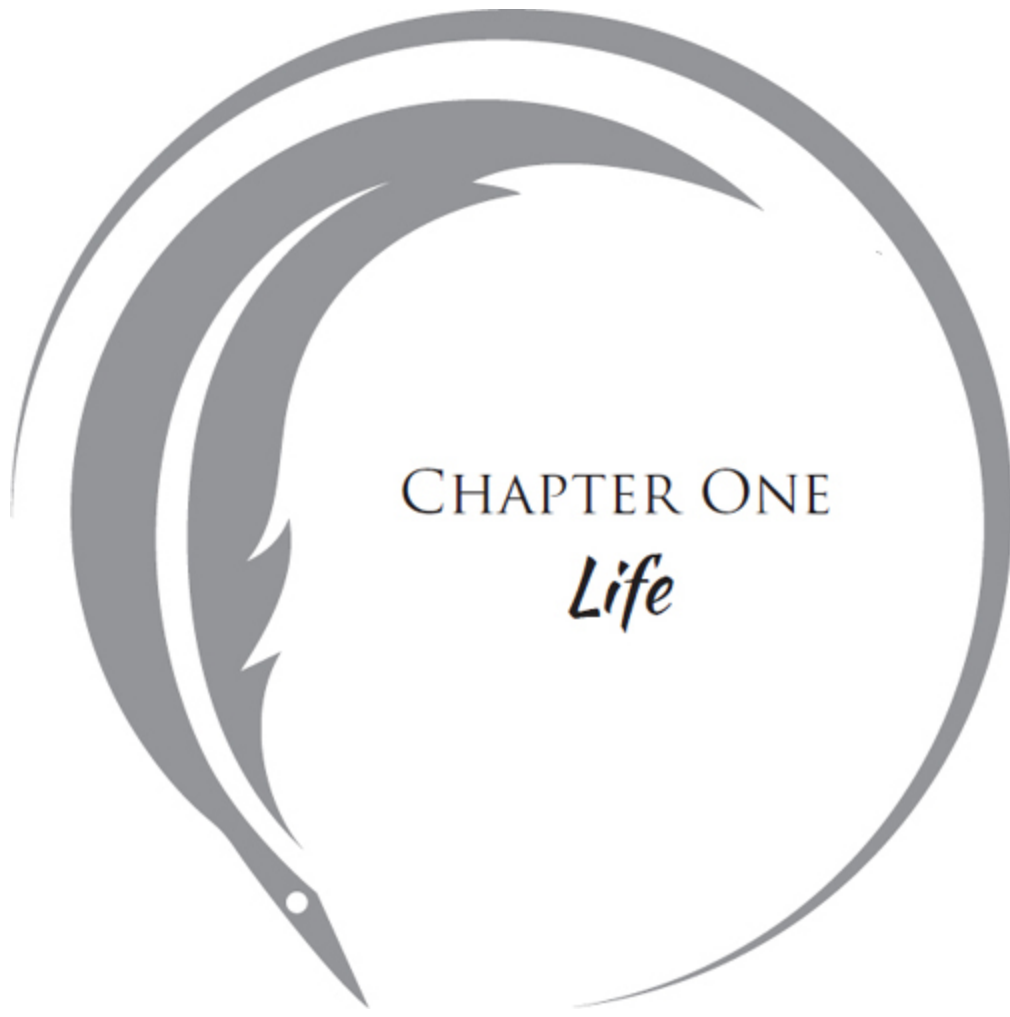
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Note from the Author



CHAPTER ONE

Life



Today is Yesterday's Tomorrow

We struggle with our reflections of yesterday.

But we can't change yesterday today.

So yesterday's pain remains our sorrow.

Because today is yesterday's tomorrow.

Maybe we can rewrite our pain.

And maybe we can break the futures chain.

But yesterday is not ours to borrow.

Because today will always be yesterday tomorrow.

Now tomorrow is ours to create.

And today is the difference we can make.

So let not worry about yesterday.

Let's love and be happy today and tomorrow.

Our reflections of yesterday will never change.

But today and tomorrow we can rearrange.

Happiness is built on our today and tomorrow.

But today will always be yesterday's tomorrow.

John Morgan Mullen



We Made It Thru the Rain

Sometimes life is like our very own thunder storm.
It's unpredictable, violent with destruction beyond the norm.
Everything from death, heartaches, financial collapse and pain.
Creating fears that you can never, "Make it Thru the Rain".

Life's hard knock are a two way street.
They tear us apart as we learn from our defeats.
Life's lessons will never have been in vain.
As they help us "Make it thru the Rain".

We negotiate life's roadblocks every day,
To chase the fears of storms away.
To search and reach beyond the clouds,
Find greatness and rise above the crowds.

Barry Manilow's song provides beautiful insight.
Into our complicated world with foresight.
We grow with adversity as well as our success.
We learn from our victories as well as our stress.

If dreamers were to have their way,
The sun will chase away the rain everyday.
While it washes away our innocent's and pain,
In order for us to "Make it Thru the Rain."

John Morgan Mullen



Character

Character is acquired from life's lessons we've learned.
They are mental and moral hard knocks we righteously earned.
Character is when you pick yourself up and get back into the game.
Realizing that we don't win 'em all and accept the blame.

Success is never achieved without mistakes along the way.
As we realize life is full of detours with tolls we must pay.
Our character is our moral compass & who we are.
The good, the bad & sometimes even a shining star.

Character is not a gift and it must be learned.
It must be cherished, respected and earned.
Character is powerful, character is the lessons of our youth.
Character is hard with the ultimate character found in truth.

John Morgan Mullen



We Only Get One Life

When young we freely venture into our world with ambition and hope.
As the dials on our clock move faster until we're at the end of my
rope.

The day before yesterday, we were trying to figure out what to do.
And now our time has passed as we get older and we're almost
through.

While our accomplishments were many so were our mistakes.
They filled our hearts with joy but also made our heart ache.
We don't always get "do overs" like we did in school.
We own our yesterday's which is good but sometimes cruel.

Kids and Grandkids makes us grin and smile.
They challenge us and make our journey worthwhile.
As we venture into our world of the "chip off the old block".
Creating duplicate copies as we attempt to improve our future stock.

We progress with a reoccurring merry-go-round for our creations,
With hope that our lesson will filter thru to our future generation.
As we try our best to improve our world and manage our stress,
As we search for perfection with a little hope of success.

John Morgan Mullen



Fear

Fear is an emotion that only you can give it the fuel to exist.
A feeling of shivering terror that cannot be easily dismissed.
It can generate incredible power from deep within your soul,
That can control your universe and puts your life on hold.

Change is a major factor on what fears is based.
Change is new unfamiliar territory that needs to be faced.
As we look fear in the face we realize it can be overthrown
And the more fear is faced the more it can be dethroned.

While fear can be healthy, you must certainly control.
For success to be accomplished and achieve your goal.
So keep your fear close but don't back down.
Unless your research dictates your plan is not sound.

Fear requires diligence preparation and care
To eliminate mistakes, carelessness, wear and tear.
Interestingly fear can also be our friend.
It eliminates the risk of throwing caution to the wind.

Courage and determination are the weapons to clear
Freedom is generated by the elimination of fear.
Eliminating fear provides the courage & wisdom we lack.
Controlling fear will put you back on the right track.

John Morgan Mullen



Mentoring is a Two Way Street

Successful Mentoring is a two way street.
It's stimulating when education and experience meet.
Information sharing benefits everything we see.
The power of "I" is compounded by the knowledge of "we".

A Mentor is a teacher with experience to share.
This donation of knowledge, patience and care.
An ambitious student with talent works best.
To achieve great results and surpass the rest.

When information and experience becomes a team,
They can accomplish anything as they achieve the dream.
The Mentor contributes lessons both good and bad
And knowledge from his world and skills he's had.

As the Mentored develops and they achieve great things.
They believe they can fly as they spread their wings.
It started with "I" and progressed to "we"
And those that I've mentored now mentor me.

John Morgan Mullen



Cancer Fear

Cancer strikes fear in our heart.
It slaps us in the face and tears us apart.

As we are struggling trying to be remain strong.
But it doesn't care because it dances to its own song.

Cancer could care less if you are young or old.
It becomes part of your body as it penetrates your soul.

We are searching everywhere trying to find hope,
As we are rapidly getting close to the end of our rope.

The doctors and their medicine are getting closer everyday
To finding a cure but it is still miles away.

It's inside our body and it has a mind of its own.
While we may have strong support, we are still all alone.

So our fear is multiplied as we get closer to the end.
It's a race to the finish that we are trying to win.

John Morgan Mullen



Education vs Experience

What's more important "Education" or "Experience"?

Both require diligence, hard work and perseverance.

We can never duplicate the experiences we achieved.

Including the added value of the education received.

Education trains the mind as to how to think.

Knowledge and Experience are both interlinked.

Education expands the mind without a doubt.

But experience teaches us what to think about.

We strive for a balance of personal and professional growth

So is it Education or Experience?....the answer is BOTH!

John Morgan Mullen



Anxiety, Depression & Hope

Anxiety is an internal disease that originates in the mind and destroys
hope.

It creates a sense of apprehension that eliminates our capacity to cope.

It generates tremendous pressure from peers that initiate fear and
rejection,

With our minds being filled with self-doubt due to our imperfection.

This disease is accompanied by anger, hostility, hopelessness and a
depressive state.

If left untreated it can spiral out of control with death as a possible
fate.

Our younger generations are the first to be mentally attacked &
terrorized.

Anxiety and depression are real and scary and more abundant than
ever realized.

Research is beginning to allow us to understand the problem we must
face,

And the hurdles of more and more lives of our fallen angels in this
death race.

Please help spread your love, our mutual hope and your contributions
for sure,

As we need help to utilize all our strength and compassion as we try to
find a cure.

John Morgan Mullen



Cancer Sucks!

Cancer strikes fear in our heart.
We try to be brave but it tears us apart.
We pray hard that the doctors are wrong.
It boggles our mind and we need to be strong.

We fall to our knees when given the news.
It's a stab in the heart in a game most lose.
With dedication and hard work, a solution we will secure.
As the best medical minds are getting closer to a cure.

We need to stay strong in our medical belief.
That the discoveries of tomorrow will bring us relief.
With our knowledge and technology being increased.
We are prepared to defeat this horrible beast.

With Medical technology we are committed to fight.
“Why Me” we continually ask both day and night.
Life give us both good and bad luck,
But having Cancer really sucks!

John Morgan Mullen



Intelligence, Wisdom & Brilliance

To have intelligence only gets you part of the way
As Wisdom trumps intelligence every minute of every day

Being smart might give us the answers to the questions we ask
But Wisdom & brilliance helps us to understand and solve them fast

Wisdom & Brilliance is more than just knowledge but encompasses
critical thinking as well

They determine when to hold 'em and when to fold 'em or when to
buy and when to sell

Ideally, we solve our issues utilizing Wisdom, intelligence and
brilliance in equal shares

Intelligence provides knowledge, brilliance finds solutions and
wisdom evaluates what's fare

Intelligence is learned, Wisdom is experience, but Brilliance is a dream
come true

It's rare to possess all three so we attempt to do the best we can do

We strive for perfection as we prepare to turn life's page
With intelligence, brilliance and wisdom the world becomes our stage

John Morgan Mullen



Money

No pension, no trust fund, no silver or gold,
No retirement nest egg, annuity for when I get old.

Interest in real estate is not always a good bet.
It's has its up and down and of course there's the debt.

I enjoyed my work and continue today.
A deal here and there if comes my way.

I don't seem to need much but Jill might disagree.
We enjoy life's' comforts but money remains the key.

I like money, it's useful and better to have it than not.
There were times I had very little and times I had a lot.

I always want more but it becomes harder to get.
It requires effort and risk without a safety net.

Money has no friendships, loyalty or love.
No borders, no faith nor help from above.

Try and not get attached because it will eat you alive.
It's comes and it goes but we need it to survive.

John Morgan Mullen



I Hope You Dance

You grow up in a world filled with hopes and dreams.
And we want the best life has to give, as it is not always what it seems.

And when life gives you the chance to sit it out or dance,
We pray you give life a fighting chance and hope you chose to dance.

You can stay on the sideline and never venture onto the world stage.
Play it safe, and never risk failure but you will always stay on the same
page

Or you can experience the joys and the risks life has in store,
And magnify the success, the thrills, the sorrows and much more.

Hopefully love will never leave you empty handed,
As the risk of love is filled with a fear of being stranded.

May you always cherish that sense of wonder,
With that magical anticipation life has you under.

Take that leap of faith and through caution to the wind,
And commit to love and start playing to win.

You can't be happy if you don't give life a chance,
And when given the chance I hope you choose to dance.

John Morgan Mullen



Let's Go Home

In our lives we have ventured both near and far.
We've spent our time chasing that shining star.
Michigan, Utah and Chicago we freely roam.
We have loved every minute but now it's time to go home.

Our roots are in Chicago along with our hearts.
Let's pack up our memories and head back to the start.
The most important things in our world will be just down the street,
Allowing us to play, help, hug, love and meet.

These will be the last holidays we will spend alone.
As we rebuild our world within our family zone.
This is what is right for us and we need to do.
This is the answer to our prayers for me and you.

Our present to each other is located on Dobson Lane.
It's time to reunite, rejoice and breakout the Champaign.
Our travels and experiences were enhanced as we roam,
But now is the time pack up car and Lets Go Home.

John Morgan Mullen



Success is Not a Straight Line

Your world is full of hopes and dreams.
Nothing is what it first seems.

Persistence is the key to achieving success.
Greatness is realized as you progress.

Some say intelligence, and others say megabucks.
Some say breaks, and some say just luck.

No one succeeds without mistakes,
Without pain and suffering and heartaches.

If the pot of gold is to be redeemed,
Persistence holds the key to achieving your dreams.

Our road to happiness we strive to find,
And we realize that success is not a straight line.

John Morgan Mullen

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