LIFE, LOVE, AND TIME

An Honors Thesis (HONRS 499)

by

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Personal feelings and emotions are essential to the process of creating art. The act of creating always requires a great deal of knowledge, time, and passion to be successful. The following thesis project is very personal and was created strictly from within, as all art should be created. The poems and the paintings that correspond to them are autobiographical in nature, but carry universal messages about life, love, and the passage of time. The poems were written by hand rather than on a machine because the works must indicate the presence of a creator who is human. Painting and poetry are media that were rather unfamiliar to me, but seemed to fit my idea for describing my feelings with their ability to draw out direct expression. While being a sort diary of my feelings over the past year, this project was also a study in the expressive qualities of painting and poetry and their effects on the observer or reader.
PASSAGE

SPEEDING TOWARDS
AT 360 SECONDS PER HOUR

NEVER
LETTING
UP.

SUFFOCATING
DRAINING
HURTING
KILLING
RUNNING
THE ETERNAL CORRIDOR
OBSTACLES

SOMEHOW
MAGICAL
WONDERFUL
WORTH
EVERY
SECOND

FULL
OF
CONFUSION
REGRETS

BUT
FOUR SEASONS

THE RIVER CONSTATELY FLOWS THROUGH MANY ODD TWISTS AND TURNS WINDING HER WAY AMIDST LIFE IN PLACES A MERE TRICKLE OR Icy AND STILL ONWARD NEVER THE LESS ETERNALLY FLOWING LOVE
A mother gives birth to the child, but another—she gives birth to the man. She the handshake between strangers friends they become. She often favors the man but will always love the child, the stranger’s wed.
SURVIVOR

HE PLODS FORWARD
CARRYING HIS ANCESTORS’ HISTORY ON HIS BACK
HIS ANCIENT EYES HAVE FALLEN ON MANY MOONLIT TIDES
HE PLODS ON WITH AN EXACT PURPOSE, SURETY THE KNOWLEDGE OF ALL THINGS HE UNDERSTANDS HIS EXISTENCE AND YET
HE PLODS HAPPILY
NEVER TURNING TO SEE HIS MARK IN THE SAND
THEN

THE FUTURE
PLAYS THEM ALL LIKE
KEYS OF AN INSTRUMENT
NOT CARING ABOUT THEIR SOULS

THEY ARE ALL POUNDED
INTO STABILITY
LIKE NAILS INTO THE HOUSE OF THE UNIVERSE

VARIANTS ARE
SYNTAX ERROR
INSTEAD OF
BEAUTIFULLY UNIQUE

BUT,

THEY ARE NEEDED
FOR
HUMANITY ONLY
CAN MAKE THE BITTERSWEET
MUSIC OF TIME
"PASSAGE"

"FOUR SEASONS"
"LINK"

"SURVIVOR"
"THEN"