

Kahil gibran friendship

AND a youth said, Speak to us of Friendship.

And he answered, saying:

Your friend is your needs answered.

*He is your field which you sow with love
and reap with thanksgiving.*

And he is your board and your fireside.

*For you come to him with your hunger,
and you seek him for peace.*

*When your friend speaks his mind you
fear not the "nay" in your own mind, nor
do you withhold the "ay."*

*And when he is silent your heart ceases
not to listen to his heart;*

*For without words, in friendship, all
thoughts, all desires, all expectations are born
and shared, with joy that is unacclaimed.*

*When you part from your friend, you
grieve not;*

*For that which you love most in him may
be clearer in his absence, as the mountain
to the climber is clearer from the plain.*

*And let there be no purpose in friend-
ship save the deepening of the spirit.*

*For love that seeks aught but the dis-
closure of its own mystery is not love but
a net cast forth: and only the unprofitable
is caught.*

And let your best be for your friend.

If he must know the ebb of your tide,

let him know its flood also.

*For what is your friend that you should
seek him with hours to kill?*

Seek him always with hours to live.

*For it is his to fill your need, but not
your emptiness.*

*And in the sweetness of friendship let
there be laughter, and sharing of pleasures.*

*For in the dew of little things the heart
finds its morning and is refreshed.*

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