

"The Simple Joys of Life"

They miss so much who do not know
the simple joys of long ago.
When life was lived with easy pace,
and thankful hearts said table grace.
When folks took time to be friends,
a helping hand, so quick to lend.
When houses had a front porch swing,
"Oh, how we loved that creaky thing!"
On Summer evenings friends would call
and they were welcome, one and all,
And Mom would serve homemade ice cream
as laughter from the porch would stream.
And vendors came to see their wares;
the fun-filled trips to county fairs.
The concerts at the old bandstand,
When music was so very grand!
They miss so much who never knew
old-fashioned joys, such as I do.
The village church church so gleaming white,
its steeple bells that rang each night.
The solace that we all found there,
as we met for a time of prayer.

Oh, time, can't I go back again!

We were not rich in days of yore,
but we had blessings by the score.
Our wealth was found in many things,
from which the soul's contentment springs.
Our homes were filled with so much love.
Deep faith was ours in God above.

How much they miss who do not know
the lovely joys found long ago.
I wish that they could share with me
my pleasant trips in memory.
Back to the good old-fashioned days,
when life was lived in simple ways.

Eugene B
Pennsylvania

Thank You FOR READING!

Below are some questions to reflect on from this piece. Feel free to also use one as a conversation starter with a fellow reader, or even a loved one on the outside!

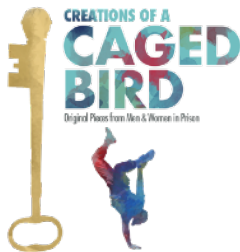
Even if Eugene recalls events and situations that weren't part of your life, you may know others, maybe family members or friends or other residents of your facility, who like to reminisce about the past.

*What can you learn from these people and their memories?
How might they help you to find zest in your life today?*

We'd love to hear what you thought of the piece, or if you've had any meaningful conversations as a result. Or perhaps you'd like to share an expression of your own (visual art or creative writing). You are always welcome to write to us at Shining Light at P.O. Box 267, Annville, PA 17003.

**Note: We will not be able to provide a response to your letter or receipt of your submission, but know that we value your feedback and contributions and will take them seriously.*

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