Under an Ancient Sky

Selected writings by John M. Ketterer

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Under an Ancient Sky

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Green Tea

Honor

every moment

by being

present.

One

drop

of truth

touches

everyone.

 $\widehat{}$

\mathbf{N} ot only must

we be present

every moment

we must also be present between the moments.

Ι

breathe in the quiet then I unfold my quiet

the sacred silence circles around me

I am neither here nor there but everywhere.

Dip your brush into life's ink

quick

tarry not your response to the fleeting moment and the heart's desire.

We try to

hold on to the moment

cannot hold on

must live the moment must feel the moment must BE the moment. When you do not know your true self there is no foundation

light winds can scatter your deck of cards

distractions are many.

Circumstances seem to limit your options

take a breath

choose large from the celestial menu. We are all going home

some fast some slow

time is irrelevant.

All wars are solved from within the heart.

 \frown

Stillness

unfolds

all

that

needs

to be unfolded.

 \sim

12

When

you are in the deep woods there is a deep silence

and a deeper

you.

Sometimes our lives are brief sightings like fireflies in the grand fabric of life

waste not each moment. We explore the infinite

we dive into the unknown and the mystery

we dive into

ourselves.

A_s

I enter into nature beauty is everywhere

it sails my soul

into the heavens

then

I am

everywhere.

Give me the trees in a green forest

the sun that treads across the water

the silence in the garden

the moments of no thought

a sip of tea

the warmth of your hand

the peace in our hearts.

Y

Keep your vision pure

keep your vision clear

keep your vision of the true you.

19

Change breaks illusion shell new

life

is

created.

X

M_{oonlight}

stillness

oneness.

 \bigwedge

21

$B_{\text{ody tired}}$

smell

jasmine

flower

refreshed.

$S_{\mathrm{ky}\,\mathrm{unfolds}}$

mind quiets

I unfold.

 α

$A \, {\rm dull} \, {\rm meal}$

friend

arrives

everything

 $\widehat{}$

tasteful.

Time drags

enter

passion

time vanishes.

$P {\rm eople \ have \ secrets}$

use layers of

protection

please unfold natural self.

War rages

chaos everywhere

ladybug has normal day.

Tattered souls

make a

pilgrimage

connect to

the Divine

reborn.

$L_{\text{ife goes on}}$

who can define it?

we can only imagine it.

Crack in old concrete

flower slowly emerges

loving intention.

Frantic

schedule

suddenly

butterfly

appears

freedom

flutters.

G_{reen}

summer forest

is everywhere

more than a color

the breath of now.

$M_{any \ different \ statues}$

each made from same clay

oneness.

33

$Y_{\text{ou offered}}$

an orange

how sweet

it was

how sweet

you are.

$B_{\text{eyond the gate}}$

a call from the unknown

louder and louder.

Truth rings true.

 $\widehat{}$

$S_{\text{ilence}\dots}$

a powerful teacher.

 $\mathbf{\mathcal{A}}$

38

 \mathcal{C}

A Higher Heart

T_{he}

heart

is

the strongest

 $\widehat{}$

medicine.

Deep down we all share the same heart.

 \sim

The heart threads the way through the duality the drama the fear and the forgetting. The heart takes us deeper into who we really are. The mind is finite

the heart is infinite.

We unfold our future moment to moment by our desires and what is real in our hearts.

We

are navigating in the illusions of the mind

the heart is our one true compass. Hearts ignite and in turn ignite other hearts

the universal heartbeat becomes louder and louder

the heart grid grows and grows

Love touches all.

We need flexability of the soul

do not be crushed under the weight of circumstances changes or towering emotions

do not be drained by these things because life is ever created within you the abundance is within you

ask your heart and it will tell you so.

A_{11}

mysteries are solved by the heart.

The heart is the divine messenger from the soul.

Do not be burned up by fear

feel the burning of the heart.

Don't

be a stranger to your own heart.

The mind has many questions that in the end only the heart can answer. The heart says to be happy

the mind says if such and such happens then happiness will manifest

the heart does not set conditions.

We

get inundated swept away by the contents of our minds

how will it feel when we are swept away by the ecstatic streams of the heart? We are all in each other's hearts

we are all in each other's hands

we are all bonded together by love. As the heart expands so does your infinite love.

Listen

to the song

in your

heart

it will strengthen your soul.

Y

Gather your precious

dreams

use these as blueprints for the world you want to see

let them flow outward from your inner essence

let them play and shimmer in the light

let them dance with your heart.

T_{he}

whole universe is available to you

every moment

every second

let in the ones that speak to your heart. Everything happens in your heart first

then you see it with your eyes.

T_{he}

only perfection you will find is in your heart

everything is perfect there.

The heart has the keenest eye the deepest eye the eternal eye.

64

 \mathcal{C}

In the Glow of Now

Come

lay down in my heart

let's enter the gentle streams of love that flow into grand oceans of bliss.

When your eyes

sparkle

my heart

dances

when

you smile

I know that

I am home.

Expect me in your dreams

expect me in the subtle moments between breaths

expect me

to arrive

like a sweet

summer wind

expect me

to curl up

in your intimate

thoughts

expect me always.

Your immense love radiates outward

and affixes like

golden sequins

to my every thought.

Let's

be lightning bolts that strike deep into the dark night and light up the still spaces with intense flashes and thunder. You have very bright eyes

some say that they glow in the dark

all I know is your eyes light my way.

You are my recipe of choice

you are enfolded into my life in infinite layers of sweetness and joy. Look into the face of love

look into the eyes of love

let it pull you into bliss.

On

that small wooden boat under the shadow of the sail your eyes appeared as ancient dormant seeds which instantly found fertile soil in my heart and as we set sail over life's mysterious waters we knew our journey was on course because our internal compass was set to true love.

Dance with me

leap into my heart

join with me in celebration of all that is and yet to come. Let the night be still except for your unfolding presence which I enter into with my unfolding heart. There was a stranger in my dream

a stranger so sweet so kind

we could exchange laughter and split atoms that made the space explode with intimacy.

We

are like bookends

sometimes

separated by

many volumes

sometimes

by a scant few

and sometimes

face to face

with no words in between.

Tell me what touches your heart and let me touch there also.

 \sim

Come

thrill me with your divine presence and your infinite breath of life

let your divine love pulse and ebb through my life so that I may float in a sea of endless imagination

let me also hear your divine words that are everywhere

let me catch them and tune into the map of all consciousness so I can glide and revel in every moment. Let me be the shrine that you bring your soul to and let me grant that all your prayers come true. Let's marinate our love in the sweet juices of eternity. Keep me in your heart as I do you

from there

no shadows

can exist

from there the view is infinite

from there you will feel like flying and if you fly take me with you. You inspire my heart and then you open it

all your music

rushes in

all your sweet notes.

You are the presence that overlooks my day

you break into my thoughts and we ride

off into sweet

landscapes

of intimacy

then you vanish so that once again life's mysteries are popping up all around which demand my focus and courage yet I am secure in knowing that you will come again to unfold a deeper sense of love. Tell me when you see the light behind all light

tell me when you feel the source of all love

tell me when you know there is love and nothing else. You arrived like a flowing cosmic mandala gently bringing a glow to my heart like a newly created galaxy in my life. Go directly to LOVE and I'll meet you there. Let's get close

let's remember how it feels to be in the rain

let's remember how it feels to open up like a flower

let's remember all the times that love poured through us. You move through my life like a glowing radiant truth that has no limits.

92

 \mathcal{C}

Under an Ancient Sky

We all have our version of moonlight yet we all draw from the same moon. Light the flame within you

care not if the brightness be too bright for others

care not about their stares

and judgement

light the flame

brighter and brighter higher and higher.

Are you stalking life or living it? There is only ONE HEART shared by ALL. Greatness is the grace of being who you really are. Someday we will shed our fears and sparkle like dancing energy reflections on a forever changing mysterious sea of consciousness. The waterfront of the soul

entering into the very depths of beingness

passing through the walls of fear

riding the heart waves

to core essence

a vastness so deep

it humbles all.

$W_{e \ all}$

want magic in our lives

we need to remember that we ARE magic

Divine Magic.

Love

is your token on the bus to bliss.

 \sim

Let only your love define you. We are always opening packages

unraveling the mystery the unknown

the threads of excitement.

The infinite expresses itself in an infinite number of ways

the infinite entertains itself infinitely.

T_{he}

first dance is with oneself

the inner dance of creation

next we can dance with the world.

We all have

friends in

high places

very HIGH PLACES.

107

$W_{e \ all}$

have our unique paths that weave and intersect and gain speed with all other paths

together we blaze across an infinite sky. Sometimes we think that our story is insignificant compared to life's immense canvass

yet without each unique story the canvass is incomplete

so

spread your vibrant colors with passion upon the canvass of life ask not if your expressions are valid

for only you are you

and only you know what's in your heart. A quiet place with no sense of urgency no pounding of the brain

the moments unfold and linger as

sweet memories

sometimes they

come and go

like the wind

there is no time only profound movements of existence

the moments rise like skyscrapers into the vast blue higher views become available

one moment

then another

view

upon

view

forever.

$Y_{\text{ou are}}$

the missing link

you are the secret ingredient

you are the infinite moment.

What opens the heart or what closes the heart

this is our crossroads

to love or to fear. Deep down inside we know what we are doing and who we really are

discovering and living from this point of existence is crucial and is our task at hand

from there we have a commanding view of life and all the love we can imagine. Everyday we need to make a pilgrimage to our core self our core truth. Some say that love is just around the corner

actually there are no corners because love is all around. With compassion we can establish intimacy and with intimacy everything we need can be revealed.

We love

to hear

the songs

of others

also

we need

to hear

and create

our own song

when all songs are being expressed and heard

the world will

be in balance.

Sometimes we drift off to faraway places

we spin awhile in small eddies along unknown shores then we are released like leaves floating down a stream

we become transitioning clouds in suspended sculptures that lift the heart from heavy attachments below.

Everyone

wants it their way

this is only possible when everyone lets all others to also have it their way. Imagine yourself gliding on the wings of perfection.

Y

Our imagination lights up the world.

We all want larger lives

however we are already immensely large

we are the source of large

we are infinite.

We need to rise above the mental trenches and walk among the true riches of earth

we need to soar with our soul. Ancient axioms and truths are being unraveled and unveiled before us

we reconnect to old friends

together we lift the crystal glasses of clarity.

Embrace

your life as your joy as your creation

love it nurture it

sail it like a kite in the winds of abundance. Sometimes we wake up in unfamiliar circumstances and things have changed

flashing transformers circle our minds

greener pastures beckon to our eyes and fear vanishes

the mystery pulls our imagination to new shores

we set sail and the wind catches the unfolding moment

we are free.

Many are trying to navigate within the structure of the mind

much easier to sail in the sea of the infinite. We all need healing

when something

has been broken

big or small

then or now

seen or unseen

quiet or loud

we seek wholeness

we seek the love

that can heal

love has many forms

many doors

many faces

let your truest feelings guide you there.

$W_{e all}$

have times when we fall apart

we are spun outward into the world of confusion and imbalance

sometimes dark landscapes of unrest and bitterness appear

we seek to gather up our loose ends and make the pilgrimage back to our core center the center that is true for us

the inner castle of peace with an unlimited view of love. We are all dreaming whether awake or sleeping

such fine dreams such fine imagination such plots and circumstances such textures and colors

dreams within dreams all traceable to the first dream

the dream of creation and the dream to BE.

We sail willingly into the tapestry of wonders caught up in the glowing delights and the mystery of it all

we search for the secrets while the maker of the tapestry spins greater and greater wonders

we search yet all the time WE are the secret

our true nature our true selves.

Let's laugh the cosmic laugh

let's dance the soul dance

let's taste the sweetness of truth.

$I_{\rm f}$

we climb to the rooftop of our beingness

we will

be able to see

the vastness

of who we

really are

we will be in awe of our true infinite self. The tapestry of life weaves and unweaves

moments coalesce

and then are gone

when love strikes deep it brings bliss

when removed

the wounds bring

pain

yet we invite

the piercings

again and again

until no wounds appear

and only the

sweet kisses

of eternity remain.

The greatest

challenges

can also

bring the

greatest

Y

gifts.

One day

I became so full of love that I forgot to say my prayers

on that day I became

my prayers.

The universe is listening to your thoughts.

M_{ake}

a commitment

 $\mathbf{\mathcal{A}}$

to your

passions.

There is no limit to the universe because there is no limit to the imagination.

Y

We explore the infinite

we dive into the unknown the mystery

we dive into ourself.

T_{he}

infinite

now

an

epic tale

always in progress.

X

Do the things that make you feel alive

and ensure that those things do not make others feel less alive.

I_{want}

to be everything

for you

but in the end I can really only be myself.

Wake up to LOVE.

R

We all have

our castles

of truth

with spectacular

views of creation.

When love

is suppressed

twisted or

thwarted

all manner of

upsets and

imbalances

can manifest.

It's

an illusion that love comes and goes

that some

have it

some don't

the truth is that love is always present and everyone has it

Love... one size fits ALL.

No one

can tell you what is in your heart or what lights you up

only you can

only you are you.

We are like flames

flames of existence which need air to burn brightly

we are the flames

God is the air.

Some of us don't color within the lines

we go beyond the lines

we surrender to the unexplainable

we unfold the spontaneous

we laugh away

the viels

we soar into the unknown

we sleep

we dream

we create

we chase our tails

we glow with delight

we soar.

We

are all in the process of reconnecting to our true source our true heritage our true home our infinite self.

 $\widehat{}$

Points of Light

Don't

fly over

your life

get down and walk every step.

Be passionate about your

passions.

Cut your ties to beliefs that bind and to beliefs that blind you from the truth. Life is everywhere

which part of it that is set in motion for you depends on your desire. What kind of dots are you connecting?

There is only one story

with an infinite

number of chapters.

Instead of believing in reasons why you can't do something start believing in reasons why you can.

W_{hen}

love speaks louder than fear we need to listen the loudest. The amount of clarity present in one's life is directly proportional to one's appetite for truth.

$R_{a ther than}$

going out and

face the world

perhaps it's more

fruitful to go out

and create

your world.

One

cannot think one's way into happiness one

one has to feel one's

way.

We are out chasing mysteries

we are out chasing secrets

perhaps we are out chasing our own tails. A snowy white winter extends out in all directions and covers everything

in the same way let your joy extend out in all directions and cover the world. We endeavor to know things from the inside out

we need to apply this same procedure to ourselves. Sometimes we go deep into our story and forget that it is just a story

sometimes we become afraid of losing our story

we forget that we can create another story with another title. A tiny drop of water from the ocean contains the essence of the entire ocean

the ocean of oneness.

Perhaps

we create mysteries so we can go about solving them?

$I_{\rm f}$

you dreamed your way into something that you do not prefer then dream your way out

change the dream.

It seems that life has to be very complex otherwise everything would unravel and the mystery the truth would be revealed too easily. If you know who you really are then nothing can darken your light or separate you from you.

We

are all keys on the same master key ring

each key opens a vital unique door

and collectively we open all doors that exist. Feelings run deep

follow the

currents to

the source

and bathe them

in the light

if the feelings are emboldened they are true

if they vanish in the light they are not true. We listen

for the inner

quiet

voice

the voice

that rings true

all we have to do is listen

there can be many distractions

yet that voice is waiting in

the stillness.

When

love knocks at your door it's best to open it

then you will see a sky on fire

you will feel a flaming heart that can burn brightly in the rain and wind and darkest night

a heart that is intimately linked to the eternal flame of love. For eons we have been dazzled by the outer world

now we are on course to be dazzled by the inner world which is the source of the outer world.

$W_{e \ all}$

make waves

sooner or later we must ride them

so it's better to make waves that take us where we want to go.

We crave the familiar the known

yet

if overly obsessed upon the familiar can limit our growth

we also need to explore the unknown the unfamiliar.

$E_{very \; \text{moment}}$

we are

on a path

there are many options

we always have

the power of choice.

Sometimes it's necessary to take hold of the tiger's tail

sometimes we are brave and we ride the tiger

eventually we can be the tiger.

$D_{\text{o not}}$

look forward to being who you really are

say "hello"

right now.

$D_{\text{on't let}}$

your fears

or doubts

define you.

$W_{e \ keep}$

asking questions until in the end we answer them for ourselves. Sometimes we flow with the current

sometimes we have to push through

the current

and sometimes we need to get out of the current and observe.

We

can never know everything because everything is constantly being created. A brave new world needs brave new thoughts brave new hearts and an immense love to pave the way.

Y_{ou}

don't know what you will think tomorrow until that moment arrives. Sometimes we are boxing with our own shadow

fighting with ourselves

sometimes we are fighting with the truth.

Y_{ou}

know

more

than

you

think.

 \bigcirc

We all have our inner journeys of light and dark of love and fear of the known and unknown of change and security

the drama unfolds

life unfolds

the journey unfolds.

\mathbf{P}_{eace}

is brought about by knowing that THEY are a part of you.

We

stand upright in the constantly changing circumstances in life by knowing and being who we really are

this gives us inner balance that keeps us whole

then we have grace and flexibility in the complex energies all around

we can have focus and presence.

$I_{n \ a \ way}$

one has to be completely vulnerable to completely live one's life. Together moment by moment thought by thought we create the universe around us

it's dynamically alive.

We are

spectators

of our own

imagination.

 \sim

In the end

you will have

everything you need

because you

are the end

and the beginning

you are endless.

$\mathbf{S}_{\text{ometimes}}$

it's necessary to go ahead and anoint yourself. We anxiously look beyond ourselves and eventually arrive within.

Hopefully

we have not

developed

higher and higher

technology

to communicate

lower and lower

thoughts.

The

biggest secret in the universe is who we really are.

W_{e}

all bathe in the eternal light

we are always

in its presence

there is no separation.

On

the road to clarity there is no dead end

there is only you reinventing yourself moment to moment thought to thought. The infinite is very much alive

it's the living lightning of now which spawns unlimited truths which are highly dynamic and consciousness shifting

we exist in a sea of creation and like the flame that must have air to survive and burn brightly we must keep the presence of the infinite within us.

E_{ach}

one of us is an unfolding masterpiece.

 $\mathbf{\mathcal{A}}$

When

we know who we really are

then there will be a foundation to create a world we desire.

We play in the finite world

but our home is in the infinite.

\mathbf{P}_{erhaps}

our biggest

challenge

is to decide

to live in

a miracle.

$A_{11 our}$

precious souls are illuminated and fill every corner of the past present and future. We are on the path to truth

yet truth is not some faraway place

truth is all around you

truth is in you

live each moment.

We

cannot escape from who we really are

yet we do not know fully who we are

perhaps this is the ultimate mystery. Each moment is a unique interaction with life

moments

change

moment

to

moment

life is not static

we are

constantly

creating our world

by our thoughts

desires

intentions

life streams are generated

we are all

masters in

different roles

of consciousness.

F_{ear}

and the unknown can be opportunities to know yourself more fully and to bring yourself into wholeness.

Love

yourself

explore this whole heartedly

 \bigcirc

A_{lthough}

we can imagine

limitations

we are

in our essence

unlimited.

We create our own personal truth within the great ONE TRUTH.

Live

every moment as if your life

depended on it

because it does.

It seems

that sometimes we cleverly hide ourselves from ourselves.

what part of you is hiding now?

Don't compromise with who you really are

this is not negotiable.

