

SOLITUDE



Guard well your spare moments; they're like uncut diamonds.
Discard them and their value will never be known.
Instead, you must improve them and value them highly.
For a useful life they become the brightest gems you own.

Montaigne said it best, "The greatest thing in the world
Is to know how to belong to oneself ... total.
The fear of finding oneself alone can be so great
That most people don't find themselves at all.

In order to be open to the creative muses
You must constructively use your times of solitude.
It is within your power to retire into yourself
Whenever you choose to seek quietude.

In solitude your minds can focus inwardly,
Organizing its processes away from distractions.
You create an internal state of resonance
Before entering again in your many interactions.

It's said that solitude is strength, and I can believe it.
Depending on presence of a crowd is weakness.
Solitude is where you discover you're not alone.
It's the house of peace. You always have access.

Solitude is the soul in which genius is planted,
Where creativity grows and where legends bloom.
Make friends with yourself. You'll never be alone.
To explore all your options you have ample elbow room.

David James Duncan, in his novel, THE RIVER WHY,
Said, "Solitude was raw material ... older than men ...
And it was merciless -- for it let a man become
Precisely what he alone made of himself." Amen.

