

Long lost friendships

Time secludes
In passing
Forgotten
Remembrances
Recallings
surface anew
Bringing
Memories
Past forgotten days
Thought lost
Obscure depleted
Now props up
In greeting
Saluting anew
Lost friendships
Starting
Friends again

- *Miran Perera*

My last wish

When will I be young again?
Never, never I know.
Sweet memories of my young days
Begins to tickle my heart.
How happy, how carefree,
Books were the only bore.
You too will realize these
When you're old and alone at home.
How we ran along the golden beach,
How we ran up the temple steps!
Even with a walking stick
I cannot do them any more.
Tinkling laughter of my friends
Still echo in my ears
They certainly bring some tears I know,
For some I'll hear no more.
Instead I hear my grandsons yelling
At some kites flying in the sky.
I too am like a kite now
Gliding slowly to find a site.
To hold on when I leave this world
A place where I'd find love and care.
The love and compassion I now enjoy
Is the only thing I wish in my next birth.

- *Lalitha Somathilaka*