

'Carpe diem!' - Seize the day!

"Hold fast to the traditions of old,
Do not be stirred by the actions of the bold.
Learn from us, the wise ones who've gone before you,
Follow our footsteps in everything you do.
Voicing your opinion will get you nowhere,
Send those ambitious thoughts back to where they came from!
Foolish are you who dare to dream of getting somewhere,
Unlearned in the ways of this world are you, believing you can make a difference."

Thus say 'they'; the 'wise and learned'
But who may I ask, told them they were so?
Are they not just like us-foolish and weak?
Did they not fall short of themselves when days were bleak?
Granted, there may be a few exceptions to the norm,
But here lie the thoughts and words of 'Society-The Wise'
Crushing dreams, destroying hopes and silencing the opinions of its youth,
In a desperate yet failing attempt to teach us to live 'good' lives.

Forgotten, have they, these very thoughts and feelings
which they themselves strove to make sense of in their youth.
Did their hearts not burn with passion and their souls not yearn for love?
Did their youthful, bright eyes not glimmer with hope for a better future?
Were they not inspired by the thinkers and dreamers of this world
Who dared to dream, believed in and achieved great things?
"We the unwilling, led by the unqualified,
are doing the impossible thwarting the ungrateful"

Must they always harp on the negatives?
Pessimism devours men and women of today's society.
Would it kill them to try being more optimistic about this world?
Ah but wait, the realist is the only man who can work his way through this maze called life.
But even so my youthful heart yearns for the day
When society shows no attempt to bind its youth to its conventions.
Until such time, shall not they live by these words;
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- Rashmi de S. Wijeyeratne

Remembering a father

Instant tears
In spite to remorse
cruel in punishment
gracious to provide
loving magnanimous
things turn your way
painful memories
constantly recalling
striving hard
erasing recall
getting totally rid of
these bad lingering
pulling up once more
torment and heartbreak

still blood is thicker
love knows no bounds
close endearment
cannot refuse relationships
makes dear father
worthy of remembrance

- Miran Perera.

