

THE POET III

The Many Faces of Love

JOSEPH G. LOPEZ, PHD

~ DEDICATION ~

This collection of poems is dedicated to my parents, Celia and Jesse, my brothers Jesse and James, my son, Joseph, and grandchildren, Arielle, Julian and Madeline, and to all individuals who have been part of my life and to every person with a kind, generous heart and soul.

*“Was love not present when igniting the motion of stars
And present still in each blossom of a flower!”*

— Joseph G. Lopez, Ph.D.

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THE POET III—*The Many Faces Of Love*

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~ PREFACE ~

*“The faces of love are many,
but always attached to the heart.”*

[JOSEPH LOPEZ]

In “Poet III—The Many Faces of Love,” the Poet continues his journey and quest to capture the world of ideas and human experience in poetic thought, a sculpturing of words to express sentiment and inspiration. This time, the poet’s special focus of poems is on love and passion. Yes, love, the passion between two individuals or between an individual and an idea, that is deeply anchored by emotion, whether understandable or not. Love is passion, that is, a natural and inescapable bond and phenomenon that exists within the heart, mind and imagination. It deeply touches the soul.

Often we think of the amorous love between lovers, but love and passion permeates many human thoughts, feelings and experiences. Love compels one to dream and seek joy and happiness, whether it be within our reach to touch and experience, or beyond our grasp and forever elusive. A person may have a deep love and passion for another fellow human being, an idea, the arts, an inner calling, a relationship with nature or one’s destiny. Love may extend to an identifiable or undeniable pursuit and longing for something that we believe makes us whole. Love can

be a natural life force, the compulsion to express and experience the essence of being alive in some manner or unique manifestation of self. Love, in effect, has many faces and is a testimony for existence.

Love is directly linked to many different types of passion and, therefore, the many faces of love may be called by other names such as hope, faith, trust, charity, kindness, sacrifice, forgiveness, selfless acts and more. Love, in the purest sense is good. It has been said that love can conquer all, but if not, the quest and yearning for it cannot be denied. Love lost, betrayed, misplaced or its absence can lead to an array of unhappy thoughts, feelings, acts and consequences. Our love passions are an inextricable part of life's journey.

The collection of poems in Poet III will express a variety of universal sentiments of love, thus, "The Many Faces of Love." Continue to walk beside the Poet and experience your thoughts and sentiments in reflection. The "Many Faces of Love" surround us always. Throughout the journey, we need only to open our eyes, mind and heart to see, feel and express them.

— Joseph G. Lopez, Ph.D.

~ ACKNOWLEDGMENTS ~

"So, it is a life of theater to play many roles—There is a script and there upon a story to unveil and lines to reveal—We choose to act the deeds and speak the words of a wise man or fool, one of victim or assailant, hero or villain, or not so innocent fellow member crew—Advancing always the human story of sad, happy or tragic ending." [JOSEPH LOPEZ]

I wish to thank all good and kind human beings, saints included, for strengthening the spirit and soul of humanity, especially in daily acts of kindness and courage. Yes, praise to every man, woman and child who demonstrate acts of love and passion as described in the collection of poems in Poet III, The Many Faces of Love. These passions include love, charity, passion for the arts, music, dance, song, literature, painting, science, the development of the imagination, love of nature, and all emotions manifested in constructive, creative and courageous ways. In effect, human thoughts and acts that nurture, protect, and value the human condition.

In the midst of different eras in history, there has always been the presence of evil where it seeks to destroy the priceless dignity and integrity of individuals. These negative social, political, and societal forces can only be combated with faith, goodness, intelligence, and courageous acts from individuals who comprise

every segment of society, from family to community and across public and private institutions. With this in mind, I wish to acknowledge the kind and brave hearted individuals who contribute to the strength of humanity. Whatever position or title or role an individual possesses in society, he/she has the opportunity to build a better world.

Bold and courageous acts are a choice. We need only not to turn a blind eye or close our heart to the needs of those forgotten and oppressed, by never failing to speak the truth or against treachery no matter how overt, covert or subtle in form. We must always strive to protect the integrity and dignity of fellowman. We should never betray the sacrifices made by so many before us who bravely stood in defense of humanity. As we live our lives, we either give light to world or shed darkness upon it.

— Joseph G. Lopez, Ph.D.

*“Deep passions anxiously await on the shore of dreams.
Take heed!
With great courage remove the anchor of constraint
And set high the mast and cast your fate
To the winds of deep desire.”*

~ ACCEPTANCE ~

Sometimes and for only some
Two hearts join as one
With true joy, humor and great passion
They know the stars are aligned
Each single word, thought and emotion
Come from each other’s heart and become one

But the stars of the constellation slowly dance
And ever sail across the dark universe
Altering the waters and winds of oceans
Too, the fate of dreams and lovers
How can one love so deeply forevermore
And another turn away and say, “No more”

There is unselfish love
And there is foolish love
Love ideas and some souls unselfishly
But love not or no one who turns away
your eternal gift
Still, no escaping the depths of pain
of a shattered heart that beats
For the soul of a heart who loves—
so struggles to live.

~ A COMMUNION OF SOULS ~

I could not help but notice
Your smile, lovely face, sweet voice
Eyes of enchantment and mystery
Yes, all your feminine beauty
That which declares in humble and finest fashion
A woman and lady's presence

How interesting where upon a field of spring
So many flowers of beauty
Yet, when an impulse cries out to choose one
There is no denying the certainty
For the colored blossom of petals to reach

What story created your presence here
Or were you born of this land
To add beauty to the barren desert
Has Lady Fate designed our paths to cross
These moments of time and place
Ours alone to celebrate
A communion of souls.

~ ALWAYS ~

Always,
No matter
The passing of time
And events
Whether fate
Keeps us together
Or apart

Thank you
For the gift
Given to my heart
For it resounds
A sincere, sweet
And tender beat.

~ THE MANY FACES OF LOVE ~

The faces of love are many
But always attached to the heart

The faces of love bring passion
Deep and wide like the rivers and oceans—
Waters of emotion are restless and calm

The faces of love can be thunderously loud
And can silently run
Within each pulse of the heart

The faces of love may find safe haven
Among lovers, family and friends
Or may discover tranquility and great wonder
In the stars and heavens above

The faces of love may treasure the excitement
And thrill in the world of ideas—
Planting and nurturing the seeds of imagination
Harvesting the fruits of science, music, art, song
and dance

The faces of love can express happiness and sadness—
For the soul of heart
So easily lives, loves and struggles to eternally exist

The power of love can be a mighty force
When it flows from one heart to another
Thus, changing hearts and minds
Leading to noble thoughts and deeds

Was not love present when igniting
the motion of stars
And present still in each blossom of a flower
The faces of love are many
But always attached to the heart.

ADDITIONAL CREATIONS

by Joseph G. Lopez, Ph.D.

PUBLICATIONS

POET I

How Memory Clings To The Heart

POET II

A Restless Spirit Have I

Thoughts & Witticisms

MUSIC CD

I Close My Eyes To See You

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