

Desiderata

*Go placidly amid the noise and haste,
And remember what peace there may be in silence.
As far as possible without surrender
Be on good terms with all persons.
Speak your truth quietly and clearly and listen to others
Even the dull and the ignorant
They too have their story.*

*Avoid loud and aggressive persons,
They are vexations to the spirit.
If you compare yourself with others,
You may become vain and bitter;
For always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself
Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.*

*Keep interested in your own career
However humble, it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.
Exercise caution in your business affairs
For the world is full of trickery.
But let this not blind you to what virtue there is*

*Many persons strive for high ideals
And everywhere life is full of heroism.
Be yourself.
Especially, do not feign affection.*

*Neither be cynical about love
For in the face of all aridity and disenchantment
It is as perennial as the grass.*

*Take kindly the counsel of the years,
gracefully surrendering the things of youth.
Nurture strength of spirit to shield you
in sudden misfortune.*

*But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings.
Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.
Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with
yourself.*

*You are a child of the universe, no less than
the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here.
And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt
the universe is unfolding as it should.*

*Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you
conceive Him to be, and whatever your labours
and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep
peace with your soul.*

*With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams
It is still a beautiful world.
Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.*

By Max Ehrmann