

Challenge

We're all experiencing unprecedented demand
on our patience, emotions, intelligence, resourcefulness,
creativity, determination and faith.

Maintaining physical health,
financial survival,
familial peace
and sustenance
seems so overwhelming.

And without all the comforts
of mobility,
confidence
and security,
the hardest thing to retain is hope.

I'll pass a commonly considered milestone
seventieth birthday
during this difficult, uncertain and momentous time.
And yet, instead of celebrating,
I'm searching all my experience, ingenuity, analysis,
concern and love
to try express and inspire.

I opened the windows
to air out my rooms.

The breeze bears memories –
tumbling, exploding,
pouring, flooding,
clamoring -
remembering friends
and family
from childhood, schools,
places, work,
parties, memorials,
ballgames, gyms, markets, restaurants ...

Marveling at the literally infinite capacity
of our lives
for relationships,
experiences
and love,
I'm thinking of you all.

Please accept my profound gratitude
for occupying a place in my life
and letting me into yours.

You've enriched and nurtured me
beyond my ability to express.

And I encourage each of you
to summon and apply
the energy,
humor,
expertise,
inventiveness,
determination,
compassion
wisdom,
conscience
and love
that you've assisted
and inspired me with.

Extend all those potent qualities
to your families, friends and strangers.

And have faith
that whatever power
intrinsic in our being
brought us to this day
will carry us and ours through
until tomorrow.

Be safe,
stay well.
I love you all

David Joel Scherbak
April 3, 2020