

\*Perspective (Sonnet #4) <sup>1</sup>

The tick of a clock or the setting sun  
The change of the seasons or each new moon  
They tell when each minute and day are done  
Not starting early, not stopping too soon.  
Consistency by which time is measured  
One thinks it would flow into all of life  
But's not true of moments that are treasured  
Nor true of moments in which there are strife  
While the world passes by on time it knows  
I often find myself standing so still  
Frozen in moments of agony's throes  
Or left with joy's remnant, felt in a chill  
For time slips away when I am with you  
And stands still when you're slipping out of view

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<sup>1</sup> While there are many standard ways to measure time, time for me is often measured by you. The moments when we are so close and go so deep go so fast and soon fade from present reality to good memories that can still give butterflies. But the times that we are far apart and the times made to feel even father apart due to circumstances make it feel as though time has stopped. It's very annoying how that works, because I want the amazing moments to last forever and the moments of pain to vanish away as fast as those special moments we have go away. But at the same time, while I ran out of lines to include this in the sonnet (maybe I'll just have to create a response. In fact, that will be my next project), I think there is something important to remember. Those moments of pain that feel so deep and seem to last so long are moments that can turn into an even deeper joy than can be brought without them. Properly working through situations and overcoming obstacles often leads to even deeper joy, excitement, and accomplishment than can be imagined without it. And though in the moment that pain seems so deep and seems to last so long, it puts things into perspective. It makes things fresh and even more exciting, as joy and pain are juxtaposed creating an even greater view of joy. But at the same time, experiencing such great joy and then moving to pain can make that pain seem so deep. While I wish the moments of joy we have would last forever, and this pain feels so deep and I want it to go away, I know that in comparison to eternity and the one who holds it, this is but one small piece of the puzzle that is being put together. Pain can seem like an eternity, but pain is not eternal. Faith, hope, and love are eternal. And I know that we certainly have and are continuing to work on those three. And at this moment, it may be hard to focus on the eternal because the eternal often seems so far away, and what we experience now seems so real. But in this all, find your faith. Place it where you know it goes and let go. Find your hope. I know that we all have earthly hopes, but find the hope that you are working towards and are already promised. And finally, find love. There are a lot of people out there that love you. And while at this time you may be worried about those who don't love you, please know that there are many who love you very deeply, and one who loves you deeper than anything else. Don't only find that love that you've been given, but share it with all those you come in contact with who need to see that love as well, even though they may not show you love. Find your identity in the one who loves you no matter what your circumstances feel like or how you feel. And love Him back. As Ephesians said, be rooted in love and the source of true love. And if you are, no matter how hard the winds blow, you will be held strong.