

The Poetry of Charles Ellsworth Smith
Volume Three
Penman Drawing

Table of Contents	Pg.1
The Lord is my Penman	Pg.2
Dear Jesus	Pg.3
Rite of Passage	Pg.4-6
Death Fertilizes	Pg.7
A Child is Born	Pg. 8
Gideon	Pg. 9
To Jimmy Hendrix	Pg.10
Ode to Scripture	Pg.11
Wonder is Amazing	Pg. 12
On top the Mountain	Pg.13
A Habit is the Body	Pg. 14
Slow Curves	Pg. 15
Generations	Pg. 16
Meetings	Pg.17
O Foolish Heart	Pg. 18-20
Gargantuan *	Pg. 21
Eternal Habitations	Pg.22-23

© 2002 Soundwater Productions
* Gargantuan Poem by Mary A. Smith
All other Poems by Charles Ellsworth Smith
Gideon drawing by Robert Churchill
All other drawings by Mary A. Smith

The Lord is my Penman



The Lord is my penman

He shapes my thoughts to words

My soul is his creation

Each day to mold anew

Let us not contain him or

But patterns on our days

That turns the stars to

Twinkling light bulbs or

Forget the wind is his spirit.

To see ourselves in leaves turning

The brown man, yellow man, red man

Falling

To the white empty winter

Branches yearning

For the green rebirth

Of unity

To emerge from this age

To a oneness in God

Is out living

Dear Jesus

Somewhere I lost my way
I dream and talk of things

I cannot be or do
Unless you intervene.

It's so much more
To go where you have walked before
Than to imagine footprints
When you were never there

It is better to wait for you
Than take myself by the hand
And lead me like a shadow.

It is better to need you
Than to buy a thousand tapes
That tell me what you say.



It is better to love you
Than to love the things
Your hand has made without you

It is best to be with you
Morning to morning
Spirit to spirit
Prayerfully sharing
Our day together

Keep me dear Jesus
From religious exercise
Devoid of hearing
Fearing judgement
Without discerning
The body that was broken
For
My
Healing.

Rite of Passage



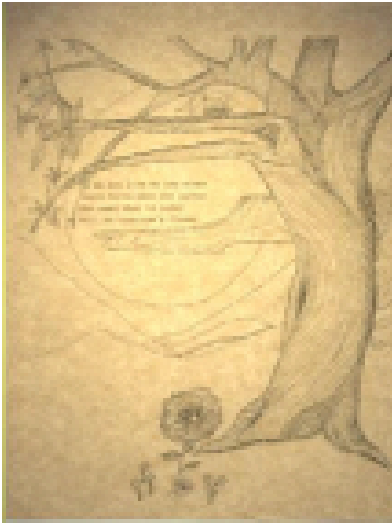
When feeling comes and tingles
My spine and tells me
Love of times eternal in their loving,
When we played lovers
Here a power
There a yielding
When we shared in music
All those half missed moments
Of our younger days,
When we comforted
By loosing
Freedom's song to sing
Or quietly we wrote
And tiptoed by
To self's silent place
We left the hour alone,
We gave the stars liberty
To b
By looking up,
We rolled in fields of hay
And loved beneath the midnight sky,
Warm spring held me
We split wood with gorilla swings

We opened personal freedom
As body sung high and free
I love you life
No thinking
Just one free swing under stars
And laughing
We caught each other bp by love
Of life we touched
This golden light.

Now I shed this memory
And regard the hour for all
Its majesty.
Souls adrift in a storm of living
And deaths eternal burn
Becomes a meaning.
Time regains its claim
To my thinking
As I see His story
Unfold through Holy Scripture.
Who can deny that beyond
And trough this vision
Is the patient shaping of
Love eternal
So to build from raw material

A kingdom that has no dying
A place where times impoverished
Spirit will lay no claim to memory
And we will be
Ever present
With the Lord.

Death Fertilizes



We do not live by Joy alone

Death fertilizes the garden

The seed that is today

Will be tomorrows flower

A Child is Born



I asked the Lord for words
To say to my brothers
For songs that all of us might pray
Share the word with one another
A child is born
Who grew to rule a Kingdom
And that child's love
He never lost
But gave it all to free them.

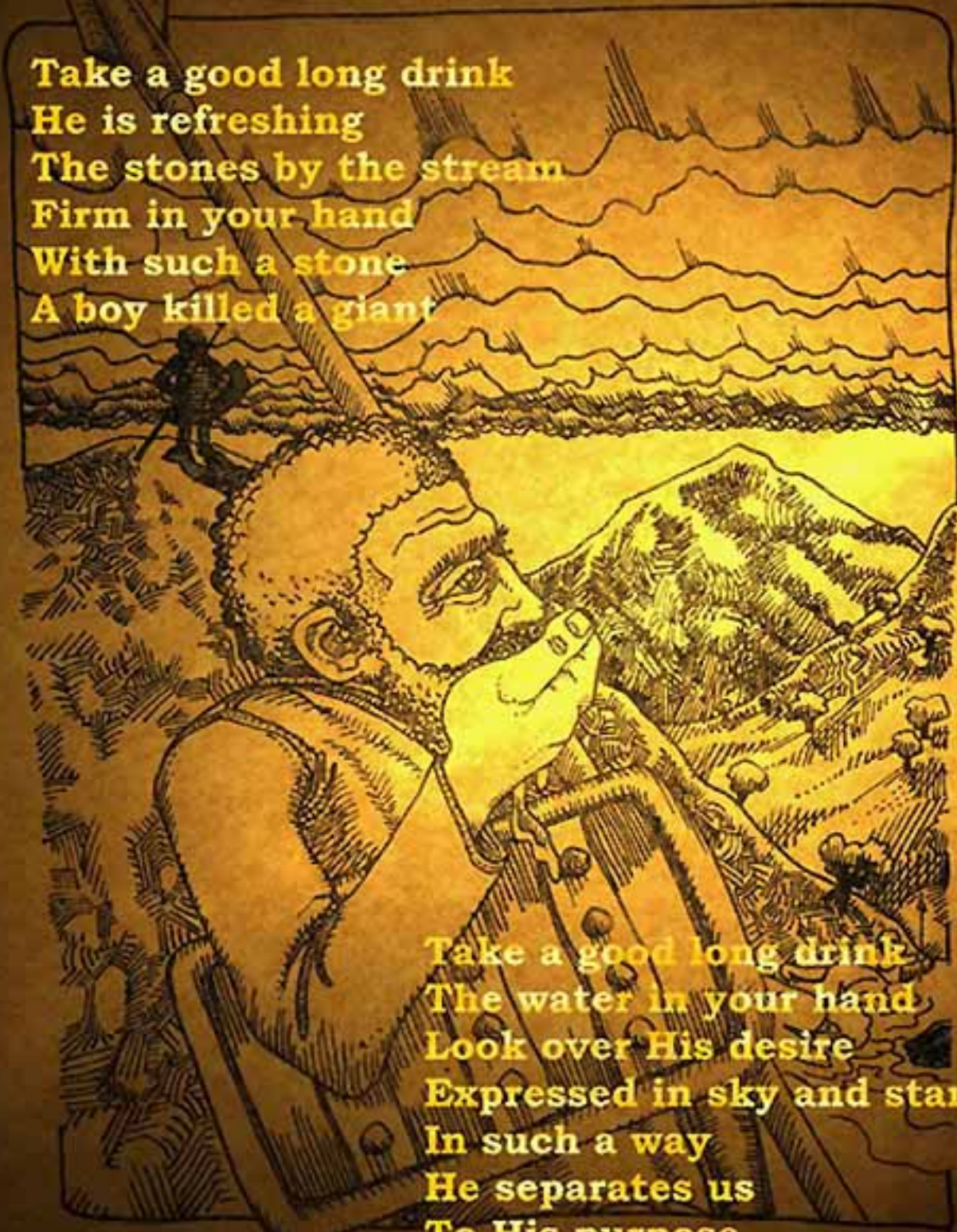
Only our prayers together
Will suffice to help our brothers
To wake those sleeping in patterns
Find the word of life.

A shower of pearls
Fell on my eyes
A gift of God
I did not throw to swine

Jesus
I believe
You know the way
Before I even ask you.

GIDEON

Take a good long drink
He is refreshing
The stones by the stream
Firm in your hand
With such a stone
A boy killed a giant



Take a good long drink
The water in your hand
Look over His desire
Expressed in sky and stars
In such a way
He separates us
To His purpose

To Jimmy Hendrix reflections on our time together



As a young man I turned

To girls for love I did not

Have within, and searched

In eyes bright with life

For soul's fulfillment.

I played my guitar to men

And sought in music to draw

Out the wounded spirit

We all shared.

With rock and roll

We triumphed on the stage

Asserting sound to be

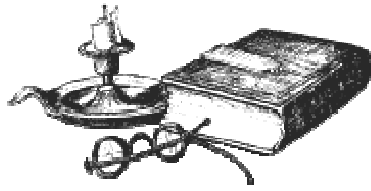
The freedom of our age

Until the volume increased

And like a tidal wave

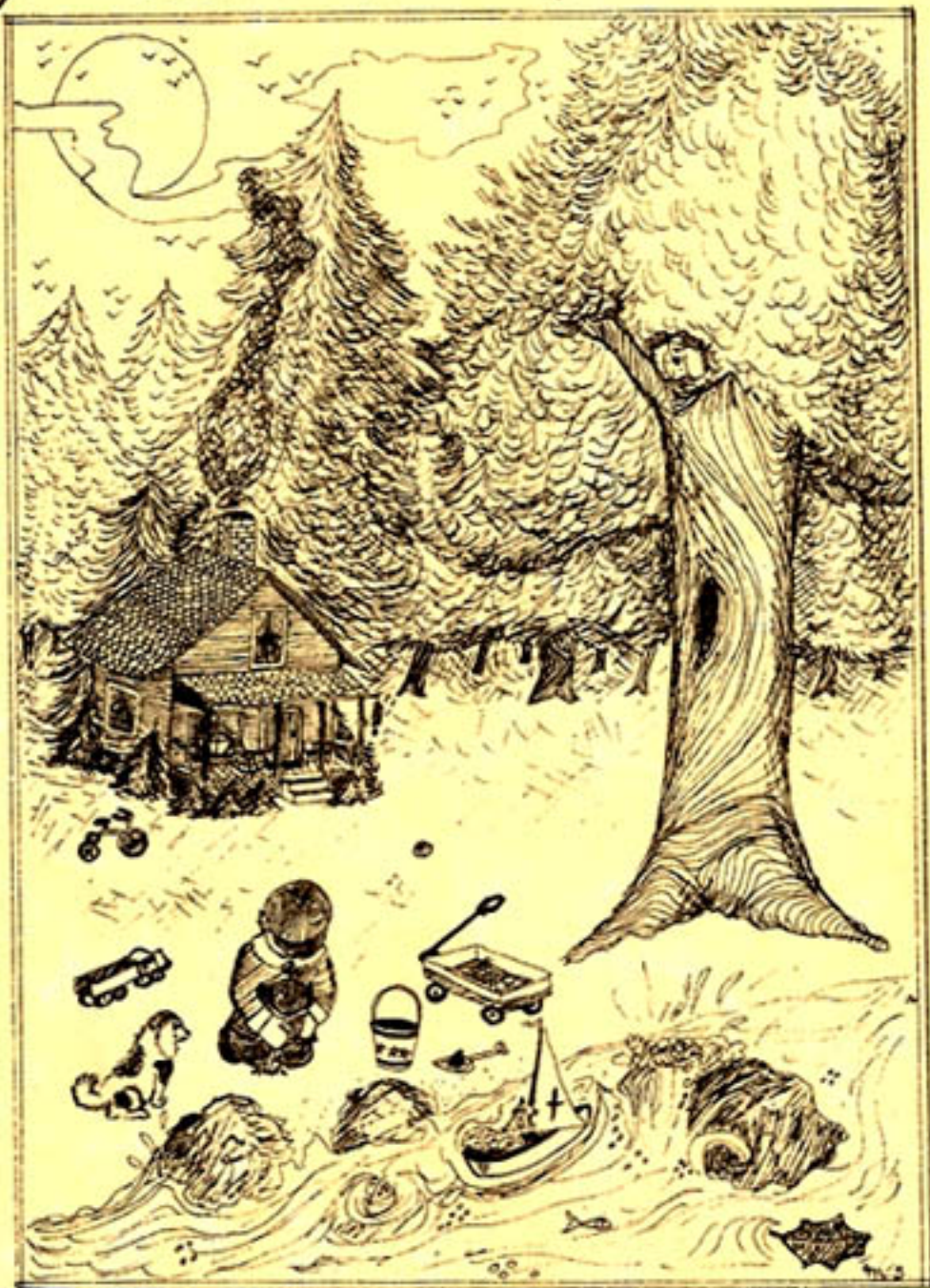
Enveloped us.

Ode to scripture



From cover to cover
I've watched the truth
Remove my more
Imperfect parts.
By still waters
Your peace has filled
My restless soul,
Wonder is amazing grace
A dew drop on the rose.

By still waters your peace has filled my
restless soul, -♥-



Wonder is amazing grace, a dew drop on the rose. ♣

On Top the Mountain

In my vision

I saw you both on top the mountain

Buddha in a full lotus

Serenity on your face

A great stillness in your mind

Soon to be ruler of your nation

You had entered the void beyond times concern.

Jesus,

I saw you Lord

Setting your feet down the

Mountain towards the cross

Calling you to shed your

Perfect blood

That the souls of men

Might be freed from time

Which binds us.

You passed through the void

Because darkness

Could not hold you

That even my imperfect flesh

Centuries later

Might become a temple

For your

Loving spirit.

A Habit is the Body



A habit is the body

Demanding patterns for its clothes

Order in the way of things

Security for its dreams

Yet a thing of joy

Can be the love of little things

Like dinner when you're hungry

And an evening filled with song

And most of all good friends

To love you

And tell you

When you're wrong.



Slow Curves



Slow curves of ivory

Water from a fall

Of gentle cleansing

Opening spirit

To the sky

Feel blue

And see sunshine

Through,

Turn your love

To golden flakes

Yield



I feel why I love you

When two souls give enough

To let the other pass through.

Generations



From generation to generation
Sin changes her dress
Cover up and then uncover
Victorian to mod
So that each new person
Forgets their father's lesson
Trying on the current trip
As if this frozen moment
Is perpetually an extension of our dream
God through these changes
Shows us the order of events
Is not calculated by men
There is no escape from fear's confrontation
We have to face what we hate the most
Ourselves in other people.

Meetings



Somehow,
I've become more concerned with meetings
than with my brothers who
attend them.

Worry furrows the brow
and zealousness is mistaken
for pride.

How foolish can I be
prayer is what is needed continually,
turn the enemy with love
that shares vibrantly
victories resounding.

The enemy retreats
until his last scheme turns to ashes,
while eternal life abounding
rejoices in the simple freedom won.

O foolish heart



O foolish heart
Do you wish for earth
When heaven prays for you?
Do the sun and rain
Conjugate a rainbow
While you watch your feet
Retreating and your eyes
Are turned from seeing
His mercy.
O my soul,
Do you know
Love can uplift you from a cozy fire
Into the barren cold,
To save a child
Frightened in the night wind.

It is plain my soul
His grace has rescued you
And set your feet upon a rock
Where made anew, imaginations storm
Like a toothless lion's roar
Finds it's proper distance.
While the lighthouse beckons more
From doubt to faithful shore,
The master sings
Through voices yielded
The song that drowns the siren voices.
And you my soul,
Are you wishing still
The angry nights caress?

What do you know my soul,
When the clouds shield the sun from beaming?
Do you see the blue sky
When all is ice around you?
Does the fire burn within
That conquers desperation?
Turn away the night's illusion
Believe the dawn
To minister the morning
Plant your feet
O my soul
And call, call, call to your master
"Come quickly Lord Jesus,
Send the wind, the storm is gathering"
I see you like a ghost upon the water'
In complete control of all that seems disaster

O my soul,
Venture forth
Set your earth bound feet upon the waves.
His imperial gaze holds you up
On beams of light
Pushes back the night
The storm clouds might
Abating

Now my soul,
Cry "Jesus!
Symphonize your church"
Those adrift at sea
Simply,
Sometimes fearfully, in need.

Silence confusions abrasive tongue
Until our souls as one
Believe the battle done,
The ecstasy of tongues

Is tuned by your sweet love,
Our hearts fixed upon your face
The souls storm
You have blown away,
The seventh thunder
Rumbling, like a timpani,
Silence.

You lift your hand,
As we stand upon the sea of glass,
You conduct the Song
That issues in
Eternity.

Charles Ellsworth Smith
© 1977

Once, the gargantuan strength hidden
beneath the surface of your lovely creation
frightened me, Lord. **S**inging violet
wet with dew, a crashing waterfall ringing
on the rocks, was more than I could bear.
I felt I was melting, falling towards a
death voice in the abyss, but my horror
fell on before me fading screams; and
my need for you became words thrust
upward like doves. You reached out and
caught me Lord. I saw the gigan-
tuan strength crucified on a wooden cross,
broken to blood, nails and splintered thorns.
Now I see beneath the violet and the
waterfall there is shining praise.

by Roy Sisk





Eternal Habitation

Victory!

Your spirit melts the ice
Desperation flees
As sunshine fills the
soul with light
The veil broken
shall not return.
The angel at the gate bids come
into eternal habitations
prepared from the beginning.
Light as water
fills me like a
reservoir. I give
back drink to you
And watch your features
change to energy.
The Lamb upon the throne
between us
as last we see.
He breaks the bread
and disappears into
your loving gaze.
The prism of your soul
refracts the rainbow from above.
At last we join together
in the white light of his Love.

ETERNAL HABITATIONS



Victory

Your spirit melts the ice

Desperation flees as sunshine fills the soul with light

The veil broken shall not return

The angel at the gate bids come

Into eternal habitations

Prepared from the beginning

Light as water dills me like a reservoir

I give back drink to you

And watch your features change to energy

The lamb upon the throne between us

As last we see

He breaks the bread

And disappears into your loving gaze

The prism of your soul

Refracts the rainbow from above

At last we join together

In the white light of His love.