

Old Man by the Lake

A selection of short stories and inspirational poems

Written by Peter Belmar

Old Man by the Lake

Copyright © Peter Belmar 2013

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the copyright owner.

Printed in USA

Published by Peter Belmar
ISBN 978-1-291-21307-2

About This Book

I write stories in bits and pieces,
some sentences makes no sense...

Words without meaning, sayings without thought, however, once these words come to life in written text, I am able to paste them together to create life in a story or sentence.

I have words appearing to me daily,
Some are very aggressive and demand action,
some are passive, warm cuddly words that wrap around you in comfort, thoughts that leave you exhilarated, thoughts appear and disappear, one wonders why did I not give them action and now they are gone, trying to recreate them does not bring back exhilaration.

Old Man by the Lake

The title of the book "**Old Man by the Lake**" and the compilation of short stories and poems within is heavily influenced by the words of the main story "Old Man by the Lake".

The visions within this book appeared to me over an extended period of time. I did not go looking for activation of these words; they appeared in my head piece-by-piece.
So here they are presented to you for review.

Peter Belmar

Acknowledgments

Special thanks to:

My family and to God for making all things possible.

Table of Contents

<i>Dedication</i>	1
<i>Four Stops</i>	2
<i>Old Man by the Lake</i>	4
<i>Victory Is Yours</i>	7
<i>Hurt</i>	8
<i>Snake</i>	10
<i>That's Not So Good For Me!</i>	11
<i>Imagine For A moment</i>	12
<i>If Only</i>	15
<i>A Question</i>	16
<i>Nice From Afar But Far From Nice</i>	17
<i>You Cannot Win</i>	18
<i>Sleepless Night</i>	19
<i>Crazy</i>	20
<i>Fate</i>	21
<i>Goodbye</i>	22
<i>Saturday, 16th Jan 10</i>	23
<i>Answers</i>	24
<i>Future</i>	25
<i>I'm Back</i>	26
<i>Business</i>	27
<i>Melt</i>	28
<i>I Lost My Way!</i>	29
<i>Job</i>	30
<i>You</i>	31
<i>A Game Of Movements</i>	32
<i>I Really Don't Mind Who Wins</i>	33

<i>The End Of Me</i>	34
<i>Money</i>	35
<i>Heather</i>	36
<i>Stages</i>	37
<i>Please Step Forward</i>	38
<i>On The Bus</i>	39
<i>Hard Times</i>	41
<i>Sue</i>	42
<i>I Miss You</i>	43
<i>God Is The Earth & The Earth Is God</i>	44
<i>Refresh</i>	46
<i>Path</i>	47
<i>Fist</i>	48
<i>Goal</i>	49
<i>A Goal A Day</i>	50
<i>Doubt</i>	51
<i>Rubbish</i>	53
<i>A Book</i>	54
<i>Gift</i>	55
<i>Finishing Line</i>	56
<i>I Believe</i>	57
<i>Fight</i>	58
<i>Reminisce</i>	59
<i>Domain</i>	60
<i>Understanding</i>	61
<i>Awaken Of Confidence</i>	62
<i>The Beginning Of The End</i>	63
<i>Diagnosis</i>	64

<i>3 Things</i>	65
<i>Do Not Quit!</i>	66
<i>Now</i>	67
<i>Sayings</i>	68

Dedication

I have heard it said
when you write it should come from your heart.
And what you have written contains your thoughts and dreams.
Well if that is true,
these words belong to you.
To say the things I never could.

Four Stops

A man had four stops to support him on his journey. Each stop enclosed an envelope and pleasures to help him rebuild, regroup, and succeed on his way. He calculated that eventually he would need each stop.

This man was very motivated and calculating; he was about to undertake a high-risk venture, and although he believed in the venture, one part of him was not sold on the idea a hundred percent - hence the four stops.

At the first stage of his venture, he took the option to stop and enjoyed the pleasures that lay at that location. The note that lay in the envelope reassured the man that he should rest a while and wait until he felt the time was right to continue.

Days passed...

Months passed...

A year passed...

Two years passed...

Until the man felt that the time was right to restart his venture once more.

During the two years that the man waited for his moment to restart his venture, he noted that the world had changed in so many ways in just a short time. He had more competitors, more people on the same path heading towards the same venture; now he had to struggle more than he had to on the previous attempt.

He became disillusioned about the whole venture, and allowed his negative thoughts to control his actions. He decided to stop at the second location, the second option on his venture, and enjoy the pleasures that were his to enjoy. The note in the envelope he opened reassured the man that he should rest a while and wait until he felt the time was right to continue.

Five years passed until the man was again ready to undertake his venture. He quickly realized that the world had changed, time had moved on, and he felt that he didn't have the same drive and

determination he had when he first started out or even on his second attempt. Still he had some desire to complete the venture but not enough drive to go all the way without resting, hence he decided to make his third stop and enjoy the pleasures that was his to enjoy. The note that lay in the envelope reassured the man that he should rest a while and wait until he felt the time was right to continue.

One day passed...

A week passed...

A month passed...

A year and a half passed...

Until the man again attempted to complete his venture, he was well rested now and got that burning feeling within him again however, he still could not get reed of the negative thoughts that had played his mind and made him abounded his venture on 3 occasions.

The world had again changed and this time not for the best, again he saw more competitors and they were a lot younger than him. He felt bitter that he had left it so long before restarting his venture again. He had more experience than them yet it seemed that they were getting ahead of him because they had fresher legs.

Maybe I should stop at my last stop and regroup for the final part of my venture.

This time the note that lay in the envelope was empty and there were no pleasures contained at this location.

Epilogue

“Don’t let opportunities pass you by.

The man wasted all the opportunities that he had been given in his life; instead of going ahead and believing in his dreams, he allowed himself to waver in self-doubt, thus, the fourth and last stop on his venture was his grave.”

Old Man by the Lake

As he gazes across the lake,
reminiscing of days gone by,
of battles won,
of friendship lost,
of a life fulfilled.

Who is this old man by the lake?

Surly, he is just another old man sitting by the lake, just one of many old men you would come across wandering into the abyss of emptiness.

What are his thoughts?

Every day I come and sit here, because it strengthens my soul.
Every day I come to sit here, and I make it across to the other side of the lake.

When you were down, when you had no hope and your existence was in question,

What was your greatest motivator?

The answer to this question has haunted me from birth.

Throughout my existence, it has steered me to action where failure was never an option.

It can set you free or keep you captive, and that option is in your hands.

When I was much younger than today I was told, "Always believe in yourself, even more so when probabilities and situations are against you. Remember who you are and where you come from." This instilled a deep belief in me that whatsoever I believe in, as long as I am prepared to work hard, my dreams may have a chance to flourish. Life makes no promise, no guaranteed tomorrow; however, I truly believe that there will be a tomorrow. I believe this with my whole being, and strive to make each day better than the last.

It's like a puzzle, you learn bit-by-bit.

You learn a bit-here and a bit-there.

You learn one bit and put it in place.
You learn another bit and put it in place.
Then one day, it all makes sense.

Look across the lake to the other side - there lies something you hope to accomplish, a goal you wish to reach.

This task is achievable, but you must have strength of character and belief to achieve it.

There are many ways to make it to the other side of the lake, some not so obvious.

You could take a boat to cross the lake - a speedboat, a rowing boat, or one carved from your very hands.

You could swim across the lake; it's not that far and will only take a few minutes.

You could fly across the lake; you could hire a helicopter to make the short journey.

You could hire someone to complete this task for you and claim it as your own.

All the above are options for one to take, but this task requires that you do not disturb the natural flow of the water.

This task requires that you observe each flow, each wave of the lake in person.

Each stride that you take will be unique; each experience that you encounter will enrich you. Experiences that cannot be fully appreciated until the task is complete

This task requires that you walk across the lake.

This task requires you to make it across to the other side of the lake without disturbing the natural flow of the water; however, you must experience each flow, each step, personally.

I remembered each step I took; I fell into the water and thought that this is impossible.

Each move that was made led to disaster, and I thought about giving up.

My mind was weak at the beginning, but in time I learned from each step, each disaster, and learned to better myself.

I learned that your mind has to be strong and your will to succeed has to be enormous.
Every experience I encountered prepared me for success in life.

Just who is this old man by the lake?
I hear you inquire

Now - I remember him,
this old man.
I have knowledge of this old man.
I know of his wisdom,
I know of his hopes and ambitions,
I know of his temperament.
This old man was present at my birth.
This old man guided me through rough times in my life.
This old man gave me passage of safety.
This old man gave me hope when the future looked bleak and my path filled with obstacles.
When I was lost this old man showed me the light.
This old man has guided me my whole life with unquestionable loyalty.

I know of this old man, this old man is I.
I am the old man sitting quietly here by the lake.

(This was about a man whose brain had been damaged but is now recovering)

Victory Is Yours

You have to believe that when the odds are not in your favor,
you will win,
no matter what the hindrance.

You have to believe
that you will win,
for your greatest enemy is you.
Don't doubt yourself and your capabilities.

Contend with the understanding that your existence will end
if you do not secure victory.
Struggle as if this is your last breath,
the final sight of your loved ones.
For this reason,
before you can be victorious,
you must make peace with your physical and mental self.

Your desire must be absolute
in every portion,
every ounce of energy.
Your whole soul must be targeted to obtaining your goal.

This is your single chance,
your solitary moment for glory.
This is what you were born to accomplish,
your life long goal, and
any doubt that penetrates your thoughts will lead to your downfall.

When your opportunity arrives,
adversity looks into your eyes,
Only one winner is visible.

You state of mind is uncompromising,
you cannot be defeated.

Victory is yours.