

1969

And Now A Father

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And Now A Father

Cover Page Footnote

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AND NOW A FATHER

and now a father sees his son as himself
and he knows that his son's grandfather
is himself too.

My father married at 25 and had
mee at 31

I married at 20 and had
Jason at 21

Because values have changed,
I know as much as he knows more
Clearly because I can speak
this knowing. It's an untruth.
And I know less than I know
is a lie.

But my son shall know all because
my father and I together can
tell him nothing, but can
give him the freedom to find
the joy of knowing all.

Simply:

Morale:

All of necessity
Includes nothing.

A. Einstein

Jim Coleman

In the heat of the summer
When the grass grows for me alone,
I wish to share the trees with you.

In the heat of the summer
when tomorrow's are further apart,
I wish to share the evenings with you.

In the heat of the summer
when the days begin to grow shorter
I wish to share the serene dying with you.

In the heat of the summer
when thoughts are indeed turning to things of snow
I wish to share
the heat.

Jim Coleman

PRAYER

— for Laurie — on her First Holy Communion —

O Lord —

I will not ask that the
bread-brittle whiteness of
this host or the
breath-flimsy brightness of
her veil that lightens her
spotless soul today persist
unscarred, unmarred by
the sullyng soil of painful
living, stains of daily trying
or the sweat spawned
stench of gainful giving,
pains of daily vying
nor *all* the *seemly* sins of
humankind
chains of daily plying

...

I do not ask her utter
innocence
prevail—

Only that seasonally ...
faithfully
as the dogwood
branch I see
or the albino apple
tree
that droop and die
perennially
she bloom again in
fuller flow'r
for having drooped
and died an hour
with the ever-returning
Springtime
of this Sacrament—
and lastly
die in season
safe and white and smiling.

Old Dad
May 13, 1967

Clarence Amann