

It is predawn and still dark outside but I cannot sleep. The cool of aching winter calls but the oaks, still green, soon their leaves will fall like me who so easily slips away from the grasp of the universe that always beckons me to join the elements of its peace.

But too often I choose the storms the collisions and scattering properties.

How sweet it is to close the distance between us to find each other and dwell together in moments of love, respect, mutual admiration, and laughter that seem so rare out there, to abide in sweet and precious harmony for a while.

Author's Note: The last three days I traveled south to visit with three of my relatives whom I have not seen and hugged for far too long. We shared meals, a few card games, a little music, and a movie. These have been times to cherish and remember in the long months we will again find ourselves apart, at a distance, all trying to avoid the loneliness that haunts humanity these days.