

S509a

On This Our Dying Summer

(Written for Lois Boast by Marion McFarlane,
September 17th, 1967)

(This may be the last communication Lois heard and she
wanted it to be read at her funeral)

Preface:

This communication is neither a letter nor a poem - perhaps a mixture of both or neither. It is my hope that everyone can hear some echo of his own hope and experience of life with Lois. It is intended to say good bye - and leave some mirror of hope for us who are living.

55916

①

We have gathered
- to celebrate a life.

↑ It's easy →
↓ It's impossible at
the same time.

We can put our
celebrations to words → ?
~~Best~~ ^{3am} outlook - ^{maybe it's all} ^{shared & then}
A nurse in Montreal

Members of a calling
in the Church we have
never been able to find
the right name for.

Girls work Secretary

Secretary of Inter-board
committee on recruiting -
While we stutter over
the names we remember the
realities hidden beneath
them - such as her
participation in the
enormously human
undergoing that was our
church's creation of
a new curriculum for KinEd.

55916

②

The student in Temple
calls England
Staff member at Navanata
again poor names
for the reality of the undergoing
→ call into the
wilderness so soon
after the creation of
a curriculum that was
to lasted 20 years.

But this hardly begins
it. → out into
We reach other places
to get it said →

music - Woman
McFarlane's poem; →
→ Many places a Met-Touched -
writer in the Dark. -
up -

I reach most of all
into the last few months
for something to put before
us - his most
like himself.

S509d

(3)

+ find it in her lost
great lover's gravel
with creation →

This life - achingly
oriented to the future,
spared nothing as it
passed through the valley
of having to die -

- to learn that -
~~it~~ had inhabited the
earth —

If this doesn't
say it -

you too -

+ if we all tried -
wouldn't be enough.

We've got a reality and
a mystery when we've
gave life to celebrate -

and if you miss earth
or - you miss the celebration

S509e

(4)

1. Something
entirely itself

unrepeatable —
united - if we use
just generalities

2. something finally unstatable,

what do we do -

We group the most elegant
language there is -

We celebrate Lois Boast

Strange

To get stated
out there

Fixed behavior is —
something profoundly
important -
absolutely contemporary.

we do what is
every old thing with
the human race in

The giving of a name

What is this grateful
celebration all about?

LOIS BOAST

509f

(5)

At the same time -
we are not really
in this contemporary place
except we are grieving
there is no virtue - in pretending
there is no grief.
This too is strange in
many ways

we are surprised of the
Reality of it

Samuel Wachs -

The Story of Death is in
some sense -
grieving is all mixed up

We undergo an enormous
shake-down.

we are surprised of what
stays when we are
spaced nothing in our
most private shake-down.

Different things matter
caring matters.

Samuel Wachs says something
different.

Blessed are they that mourn

5509g

(6)

There is another
strange discovery

For the private and
unique thing that death
is - we learn
how profoundly true it
is that death is a public
matter - and this
is good news.

Reality of death -

even as it thrusts upon
us the absolute uniqueness
of the one we celebrate - and
how grieving - can't
let is have this as the
only death in the world
- or our grieving as the only
grieving in the world.

We can know it only
as the fate of every member
of the ~~race~~.

To really know what
death is to join the
human race -

S509h

⑦

Strong: -

Have two -

- To be right with the
contemporary race →

~~we have to join the~~

we do a very old
thing with the human race

we join it.

Have life affirmed
in the great stroke
down

to know all this.

that the sting of Death is in
that caring matters

That to mourn is to be
blessed

That to be put through

our own unique
wrestle with creation

-- we have to do it
as members of one another.

S509i

⑧

ONE THING MORE

We do all this
Remembering

grieving

Celebrating

being put through

under - or over - or some other
around The Christian Message

you are forgiven

you matter

you are called somebody

as pure gift.

Why didn't you start there?

I think -- I know found -

it is so profoundly
true -

This Message - is always
News:

Ponder Awe

what the almighty can
do

if with his love he
befriended us.