

**Love Is
Collected poems 2010**

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CONTENT

[Love Is](#)

[Love Above All Else](#)

[Little Butterfly](#)

[The Mentalist](#)

[Mind The Step](#)

[I Nodded](#)

[New Heights](#)

[Pain](#)

[Sliding](#)

[Three Million And Eight](#)

[Seems](#)

[It's Wet Out Again](#)

[Worlds Within Worlds](#)

[Deep Beauty](#)

[Gentle Strength](#)

[Extreme Emissions Of Coherent Love](#)

[Laff](#)

[Swivels](#)

[So Fitting](#)

[Love The Things You Say](#)

[Why](#)

[@Sheree](#)

[Colour Me Love](#)

[You Are](#)

[Know What I Mean?](#)

[Graffiti](#)

[Why Do I Love You?](#)

[You Are](#)

LOVE IS

We began with the corners;
the smile, the words, the touch, the kiss,
filling the spaces between with straight edges,
made fun by the curves on opposite sides.

We picked from our jumble of experiences
the jigs we thought might fit,
learning together which bits matched,
those to throw away.

After completing our love-saw,
clicking the last emotion into place,
and no longer needing the guide,
we hugged and discarded the box.

[back to top](#)

LOVE ABOVE ALL ELSE

How high can I fly
Before I get burnt by your heat?
You cradle me in your warmth and safety
And I grow with each encounter.
Somewhere, hidden away, deep in my mind
Is a place reserved for you,
Where your fears will be held,
Your wishes be met with understanding
And your love be returned a thousand fold.
And as I look down
From the high place you've taken me,
I hold out my mind
Waiting for your hand.

[back to top](#)

LITTLE BUTTERFLY

'Neath blue shaded skies,
see a swirling white mind:
A straight stem, decked in violet,
with eyes raised to a higher sun.
Little butterfly of emotions
painting pictures on my mind;
fluttering around a flame of gold,
on tinted wings, tipped with honest colours.
Mind on mind, you pass my hiding place,
gathering your strength,
distorting my time.
The seconds I am with you,
the eons in between.

And as my mind flutters into your hot flame,
a moth drawn to a blinding light,
you whisper your wishes at me
and I can do nothing but be consumed.

[back to top](#)

THE MENTALIST

Smokey thoughts cradle tentative emotions
That wend their way through the deepest reaches
And as I look inwards towards the deeps
I feel the strength of your mind.

Through your medium you bring life
Spread across a weaved world
Touched by the finest of hairs
Born with colours from your mind.

And as my life dries on your easel
Your interpretations reflect my truth
That I wandered sometimes lost
Until rescued and held in your mind.

[back to top](#)

MIND THE STEP

Catch me as I fall
Having tried to lasso
The sunset for you

Hold me in your perfect mind
As I wonder how
I've been picked by you

[back to top](#)

I NODDED

You smiled when I said 'ello
And I nodded and smiled back.
You raised your eyebrows when I sat next to you
And I sat with my hands in my lap.
You said, "Your a nob," laughing at my surprise
And I looked at the floor confused.
You said, "Come back tomorrow"
And I nodded as I left.
Then the miracle happened and I was reborn

You whispered in my ear, "Now you have a soul"
And I stood tall and proud.
You nodded at the transformation
And I sat quietly contemplating.

You gave me emotions to wear
And I wore them proudly.
You gave me my first kiss
And I fell in love.
Then the miracle happened and you said , “Yes.”

[back to top](#)

NEW HEIGHTS

She came in the night
Her words carried on a soft sigh
That channelled my senses to new heights
And floated my soul across tossing waves
Whilst my heart stopped under her fingers
And I was born anew
My passing no longer certain

[back to top](#)

PAIN

Did I catch a beautiful sunset
Or a passing cloud?
Did I look into the sun and was blinded
Or did the moon steal my gaze?

Or maybe I caught sight of you,
As you fluttered past on silken wings,
Trailing your hurts behind you;
Leaving me no choice
But to share your load.

It hurts now when we part.
I return to emptiness.
No more riding the currents,
Where I fly with you mind on mind.
A part of me you always share;
A part of you I dream I do.

Ripped as I am,
I can only shed my tears;
My blinded eyes turn towards heaven
And murmur, ‘Touch me lightly for
The pain I feel now is the pain of love.’

[back to top](#)

SLIDING

Every day you slide a little nearer.
Each breath, like a breeze in the night
Carries you nearer to here.
My mind tells me here, my heart there,

And I turn, confused,
Like a spinning top
That never quite settles

How can a world so big, so overwhelmingly vast,
Seem so small when you enter it?
Drawing me down to just a few small gestures,
Compressing my emotions so tightly,
That I turn, light hearted,
Like a newborn
That never knows sadness.

[back to top](#)

. . . THREE MILLION AND EIGHT . . .

How much do I love you?
Let me count the ways . . .

Best not hang around
This could take quite some time

[back to top](#)

SEEMS

Seems to me that I'm expanding
Seems to me that love is banding
Seems to me that chance is landing
Seems to me that time is standing

Seems one soft word sets me a'fire
Seems one soft word fills my desire
Seems one soft word lifts me much higher
Seems one soft word makes fate a liar

[back to top](#)

IT'S WET OUT AGAIN

It's wet out again,
and your tears run down
the windowpane.
Touching them brings you back.
Damp patches on my fingertips,
cool receptacle of our love.
Your tears are salty
as I savour their memory.
Salty, soft and tentative.
This one, our wedding day;
your face is reflected in its shape,
framing your beauty from within.
Here, our child's first hurt.
You cried with her. I,
not being there, cried later.

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