

A Place

I could live on a beautiful beach side
By a quiet Pacific lagoon
And each night I would hear the heartbeat of the surf
As jungle birds sang to the moon
I would fish in the warmth of a bright, friendly sun
With a tropical breeze in my hair
And drink brandy I made from bananas I grew
But be lonely because you're not there

I could live in a castle with spires in the clouds
Where armies march at my command
Summon servants to bring me whatever I wish
With only a wave of my hand
Court jesters, young maidens, armor-clad knights
Stout lords and good ladies most fair
I could sit on a throne, wear a crown made of gold
But be lonely because you're not there

I could fly in a ship past the moon and the sun
Take an orbit 'round every star
And find nothing to thrill me, to make my heart sing
Because I'm not where you are
When my journey was over, each being that I met
Would watch my spaceship arc into the blue
And they'd all weep for me because they could see
How empty I was without you

I could live in a penthouse above bustling streets
In Paris or London or Rome
See a carpet of city lights spread at my feet
Like an eagle in his sky-touching home
More excitement and clamor than I could partake
Almost more than one mortal could bear
See the shows and the clubs and the stores and the sights
But be lonely because you're not there

I could live on a mountain surrounded by firs
In a cabin made from centuries-old trees
With a hearth that's so big I could roast a bull elk
And smell pine needles on every breeze
Get my water and fish from a crystal-clear stream
For neighbors: deer, puma, and bear
And the owl's haunting ballads would sing me to sleep
But be lonely because you're not there

I don't live on an island with sparkling waves
Nor a mountain that scratches the sky
Nor Arthurian castle where fantasies live
Nor a modern apartment up high
But wherever I am there's a place at my side
A place you were destined to share
I could live in a shack with no comforts at all
But be contented because you are there

(c) Stephen Thorn, November 13, 2008