



For Marilyn

Friendship gets out of bed
puts on her sneakers
knocks on my door
We walk the neighborhoods
take clippings from red geraniums
breakfast at Stacks
hit tennis balls at the courts in the park

Friendship dresses up
makes reservations at well reviewed restaurants
shares afternoon matinees at ACT and Berkeley Rep
musicals like Les Miserable and
lectures with Jean Michel Cousteau
“Starving people can't think”

Friendship likes to garden and visit nurseries
create a quiet place where we can sit
in a panoply of coral pelargoniums and Mexican poppies
tall blue delphiniums and butter yellow clivia
And in the fall
the golden leaves of the Gingko tree

Friendship likes to browse thrift stores
find cashmeres and Liberty cottons
that still have life
that will keep her family and friends
warm and fashionable

Friendship takes me places
north, south, east, west
to browse antique shops
to see an exhibit of French Impressionist paintings
to breathe the sea air along the Monterey coast
to wander cliffs at Sea Ranch and Mendocino

Friendship knows no age but ages
Waists grow thick, hair grows thin
joints pop and crackle
eyes take in less light
ears take in less sound
and every day is one day less
and every day is one less day

to say I love you

Friendship makes memories
makes a life A Life
unique and sweet
and memorable

for 36 years