Poetry Series

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

- poems -

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Faith Elizabeth Brigham (May 14,1953)

I was born in Pittsburgh, PA, the third of seven girls. I'm certain I was in love with words by the time I was five years old. The first thing I ever wrote was a Christmas play for my fifth grade class in parochial school. The following year, I won first place in my sixth grade poetry class' contest.

In high school, I joined the school newspaper staff and was the editor for the school literary magazine, which I entitled 'Eclat', my senior year.

I became a professional writer in December,1974 when Lucerne Publishing Company bought my poem about a small town christmas parade.

Since that time, my poetry has been published both on and off line. Some of my work has appeared in Poet Magazine, Wide-Open Magazine, By-Line, Cableweek, Alley Cat Magazine and other have been published by Seminole Community College, Southern Poetry Association, Catharsis and the American Poetry Association. I was also a regular writer for 'The Mission Quest' in which my articles on quality management were well received. My collection of published works is show cased on my personal poetry website 'The Poetry Of Faith Elizabeth Brigham' at http: //community-2.webtv.net/faithmairee/THEPOETRYOFFAITH

I also have a writers homepage at 'Thinker Net'.

I performed my first poetry reading in the early 90's at Seminole Community College in Sanford, Florida and later went on to host an open-mic poetry series at 'Lynn-Marie's Coffee House' in Cocoa, Florida during the winter of 1995.

Poets I admire the most are Lawrence Ferlinghetti, e.e. cummings, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Bob Dylan and Kris Kristofferson.

My favorite authors include John Irving, Evan Hunter, and Joan Didion.

Works:

'The Lady Blue' a short novella about a girl coming of age in New Orleans, LA is published on-line at 'The Starlite Cafe'.

As of 9/2/05, my novella has it's own address at: http: //community.webtv.net/foxylady88/THELADYBLUE

A Better Place

my heart is strongly set
to do what good i can do
and when i leave this world
i hope to have made a difference
to have made the world
a better place in my own way
even if it is in a small way
by having tried to be kind
to all whose path has crossed mine
by treating others with respect
helping those in need of encouragement
to reach their goals
or perhaps by writing something
that helps someone in some fashion
if i have accomplished this
then i have completed my souls work

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A Friend In Nature

I've found a friend in nature
although nature could turn on me
if i'm out and about in a storm
and its lightning strikes me
if a tidal wave sweeps me far out to sea
or a poisonous snake takes a bite of me
if a tornado twirls me high into the sky
yes, the irony is that nature which
i find so enchanting
could one day cause my demise

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A Girl Named Happy

i knew a girl named happy
who was sweet as sweet can be
her smile was so pretty
and her heart was filled with glee

she seemed just like an angel
and was friendly as can be
she touched the lives of many
by making them so happy

written 11-11-05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A Man In Love

he waits for her
his princess
the woman of
his wildest dreams
yes, his kind
of woman
in due time
she will saunter by

he longs to
catch her eye
for in her eyes
he sees something
of beauty
something that
makes his heart
pound in his chest
oh how he yearns
to touch her

he wants to gaze
at her long legs
and hear her high heels
clicking on the pavement
knowing he is a commoner
among men he holds back
thinking she will
break his heart
if she passes by
without a word

then she comes round
the corner of the
station looking like
a goddess to him
the woman he has
dreamed of holding
in his arms
the one he longs for
late at night
his eyes wide awake

he has never
seen her looking
so absolutely stunning
he had the words
he would say
to her rehearsed
when he saw her today

yet now all
he could do was

stand and stare
at her dumb-struck
his soul on fire
as he watched
her wink at him
and climb aboard
the bus that
goes down town

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A Part Of Me

Women bleed while
men eat ice cream...
and other things
to get over someone...
crying takes the
sharp edge off the pain
for a while warding
off the numbness
knowing all the while
it is futile and
foolish for me to think
i could ever really
get over losing you
who was and always will be
such a part of me.

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A Place I've Never Been

sometimes, i just don't want
to be me if being me means
never getting the love i need
loving too much and trusting
too far just to get hurt
all over again, no
i don't think my heart
could take another hurt

i am lonesome for a place
there is a name for it i know
it's difficult to explain but
i know the feeling all too well
it is a kind of nostalgia
for a place i've never been

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A Poet's View

i see things clearly
and yet i am called a dreamer
yes, i am a poet who sees things
only another poet can see
these details of raw reality
one who views life vividly
i write because it is
part of my soul's work
and yet i am labeled insane
as long as life goes on
i'll unleash the verse erupting
inside my brain

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A Prayer Before Dying

God forgive this sin of mine,
I know how grave it is.
But I promise this will be
The last offense of mine.

I don't know if I'll see you.
Please try to understand,
And help my friends and family
To find true peace of mind.

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A Reason For Being

we all have a reason for being
or else we wouldn't be here
even the bum under the bridge
has a purpose for living
though he might beg to differ
if you confronted him

life is a precious gift
and we all have something
that we were put on earth to do
besides loving and pleasing
our Maker we are here
to love one another
to help each other
on this journey of life

set aside yourself
put your ego to rest
and you will see how freedom
truly feels and know the joy
of seeing beauty in everything
you will be inspired to write
from deep within your soul
and feel ecstacy not unlike
an orgasim or a mystic breeze

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A Special Wish

i wish you peace of mind
i wish you joy
i wish you all of
the better things
in life which you deserve

above all,
i wish you love
for without it
life holds little
meaning for us all

when confusion comes
and things are chaotic
keep in mind that i love you
and wish you only
what is best for you

without meaning to
i may hurt you
please try to forgive me
and remember-
i love you

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A True Story

caught in traffic
in downtown orlando
on our way to meet up
with friends from
out of town
the traffic light
at livingston turns red

we are in the
right hand lane
when i notice a lone male
in the left lane
in a car same make
and model as ours
ogling me from a far

eventually my husband
sees the man stare
asks under his breath
why's this nut
staring at our car
my husbands curiosity
overwhelms him and he
calls out the window
to him asking if
he wants our car

the stranger shakes
his head and grins
'you can have the car'
he calls out and adds
'i'll take your woman'
my husband's face
reveals his shock
as the light turns green
and the guy speeds ahead
laughing his arse off

written 11/10/05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A Woman Of Words

i am a woman
of words and
though you can not
hear me speak them
you can listen to
my writer's voice
and know that
this is me speaking
that my words spring
from my heart

i am a woman
who thinks much
and cares deeply
for all mankind
one who fights
for justice and peace
who places a high value
on life itself

some have mistaken
my meekness
for weakness
for they lack
an understanding
of the components
of true strength

i have been wounded
and yet i have survived
and overcome
many obstacles
i have
through God's grace
come a long way
from where i've been

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

A Woman's Face Wears Many Masks

a woman's face wears many masks
her precious secrets to conceal
so a man may sit and ponder
if what he sees is truly real

he's a very clear-headed man
who takes his time and sets his goal
he's sure to see the masks diverge
as he taps on the door to her soul

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

All I Want

the sun, the sun
the sun will rise
just like always
i'll wake, i'll wake
i'll wake alone
without you there
and say a prayer

i'll wonder, i'll wonder
i'll wonder where
you are right now
i'll pray, i'll pray
you're happy now
that's what i want

are you, are you
are you happy now
i would be glad
if you just knew
that's all i want
that's all i want

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

All In Vain

i keep forgiving you
for all the wrongful
things you do
i've prayed and prayed
you would change
your hurtful ways
but baby, it's all
been in vain

sometimes, i cry
myself to sleep at night
with you lying by my side
your back turned towards me
because my feelings
don't matter to you
and our life together
is slowly falling apart

the bottom line is
i'd be better off
without you atleast
for the time being
and as sad as it seems
my leaving you
is just a matter of time

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

All Of Your Tomorrows

may all the joy you give to others
find it's way back to your door
may you never reach out for a friend
and find yourself coming back empty handed
if others can not see the beauty
that's inside you they would never know
beauty if it was given
to them on a silver platter

may you always know that someone thinks
so very highly of you and would
go to hell and back for you if need be
may your light shine bright to help
you always see your way
and may all of your tomorrows be saturdays

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Almighty Identity Crisis

i am reborn every morning
when i rise expecting
good things from the day
getting my dose of raw reality
as the day moves along
by nightfall i crawl into bed
remembering i have been through
this kind of thing before
the almighty identity crisis

every six or seven years
it comes without fail
i am uncomfortable feeling this frail
knowing i may change on the inside
or rearrange things on the outside
i should be used to it by now
my only consolation is in knowing
i will come out of it
stonger and more self-assured than beforehand

written 11-11-05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Along The Walkway

it is her job to sweep the walkway
but she can not sweep today
for her heart has just been broken
and the gripping pain won't go away

she has to sweep the walkway
she must do it everyday if she wants pay
there are two dogs she has adopted
or visa versa along the way

she works away her broom in hand
the sun baring down on her fair face
her new found friends just want to play
up and down the walkway they will race

she bids good morning to the cop
as he saunters by and pets the dogs
but he can't stop too long to play
for he's got tickets he must log

she stops along the walkway to wipe
away the tears her lover caused when
he created havoc in her heart so bound
she barely brushes as she sweeps the walkway down

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

And Then A Hard Rain Came

and then a hard rain came
like a curse on the crescent city
breaking the levee
causing mass desruction
killing the lives of its' people
destroying their houses
separating survivors
from their loved ones
displacing pets and causing
some owners to stay behind
who could not leave their
cherished pets to die alone
my heart goes out to them
i pray God helps them
to find their way to
someplace safe
that they may be reunited
with the ones they love

their hope is in the heart of God
whose mercy is unlimited
He does not tear down cities
without rebuilding them
stronger than before
as is true with all
His children whose pleas
He hears and answers in
His own way and in His time
for He knows how each heart breaks
and counts the very tears
that trickles down their faces
and sheds a tear for all His people

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Another Chapter

sober and sane
soul-searching
for answers to
questions about
life and love
not knowing my strength
of mind
my endurance

all i know
is i am a survivor
turning over
a new leaf
turning the page
on another chapter
of my earthly life
i pray you
be there if
i should fall

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Another Man's Treasure

i finally parted with
the old living room coffee table
leaving it curb-side for
the waste technician
only to discover
within the hour
it had been snatched up
by the garbage pickers

do you agree with
the old saying
'one man's trash
is another man's treasure'
ido
believe it-
it's true

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

As Good As You Make Me

i am here
because you have
created me
drawing from you
your truth
your life experiences

i dwell inside
your earthly being
springing forth
from your hearts core
i long for expression
use me as you need me

i am the vehicle
behind that
driving need of
yours to be heard
i am your life-line
your path to peace
and fulfillment

use me wisely
for you are my master
while i am like
a soothing salve
i will never leave you
spurring you onward

i am your poetry
your unique form
of contribution
to all mankind
i am your emotional
release and
your reprieve

i am capable
of greatness and
can change peoples lives
i will live forever
but please remember
i am only as good
as you make me

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Autobiography

i admit it-
i wanna be hip
i've been known
to write poems
on paper napkins
in restaurants
when i didn't have
a piece of
scrap paper handy
i've helped
start programs
worked real hard
and got some promotions
i hate rudeness
in others and people
who pretend they're hip
by gossiping

yes, i admit-
i wanna be hip
i detest cruelty
to animals and
don't like
saying goodbye
i have as heroes
evan hunter, bob dylan,
lawrence ferlinghetti,
john irving and
kris kristofferson-
all real hip dudes

i do admit it-
i wanna be hip
i like being called
laid-back
soft-spoken
and a true friend
to the people
in my life
that really matter
that's pretty cool
just maybe a
little bit hip

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Bad Dog Blues

I've got me a bad dog
Yeah, he's a mean old boy.
I've got me a bad dog
He's sure a mean old boy
He won't answer when
I call him, lawd, he treats
me like a toy.

He's so ornery
I've got to chase him down
each time he roams.
He's so ornery
I've got to chase him down
each times he roams.
Seems like everytime I
turn around I'm dragging
that sorry dog home.

He know's he's a bad dog
when he eats holes in my shoes.
He know's he's a bad dog
when he eats holes in my shoes.
He just looks at me with
sad eyes that seem to say even
bad dogs get the blues.
He looks at me with
pleading eyes and says
'Even bad dogs get the blues.'

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Beauty And The Beach

there is something about the ocean
that brings out the earth-mother in me
it is a place i love to go to write or
to ponder life's mysteries
being out in the ocean with
the waves spraying over me
feels something of a baptism
a cleansing of my soul's debris

the beach has a magnificent beauty
that never ceases to amaze me
and makes me feel one with the earth
in rhythmn and harmony
i realize as i look out to sea
how very small i really must be
in the overall scheme of things

i love the sea for it brings
out the spirituality in me
the feeling of being totally free
like seagulls overhead and
the sand underneath my feet
or the engulfing sun warming me
to get down to the nitty-gritty
the sea is a poet's paradise to me

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Because Of You

my days of being blue
are over because of you
your love has freed me
and you always seem to
bring out the best in me

your love is so beautiful
it means everything to me
it seems like i had to wait
forever before i found you
but i know your love is true

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Before The Fall (And Justice For All)

they say pride comes
before the fall
who will be there for you
if there is anyone at all
surely things can not go on
as they have done all along
where tyrants reign and
justice is merely feigned

don your armor and
prepare your swords
for the things i speak
are not merely words
i challenge you to fight the war
the dawn is coming and
soon you will see
your cruelty will no
longer be endured

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Best Thing I Ever Had

When I get to Louisiana,
just a mile or more to go.
Yes, when I get to Louisiana,
just a mile or more to go,
Lord, you know i'll be alright
once I hit that station floor.

They say he's in New Orleans
doing his best to survive.
They say he's in New Orleans
doing his best to survive.
I'll be in New Orleans just
as it's turning five,

That man was the best thing-
yes, best thing I ever had.
That man was the best thing-
yes best thing I ever had.
Lord knows when I see him it will
make my heart feel glad.

When we're pulling in the station,
Lord I'll be headed for that door.
Yes, when we're pulling in the station
I'll be headed for that door.
You know I just can't wait until
I hit that station floor.

That man was the best thing-
yes, best thing I ever had.
That man was the best thing-
yes best thing I ever had.
Lord knows when I see him it will
make my heart feel glad.

Faith Mairee

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Between The Two

one man wanted my heart
the other made it bleed
one man made me smile
the other made me plead

one took me for granted
while the other was fair
one man kept me crying
the other really cared

one man hurt me badly
the other made me blue
one left me in april
the other left in june

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Blue

blue, blue, blue
it's such a beautiful hue
i love blue
except when i've got the blues
blue, blue, blue
i've always loved blue it's true
i've heard of roses that color too
blue, blue, blue
it's much more than just a hue
it could be true blue like my love for you

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Both Sides Of The Fence

his philosophy was
if a cop didn't see it-
he didn't do it
and that's where
his head was at the time

before prison he believed
in free love
shot up heroin
lived in roach infested flats
and danced like a hoodlum

he had a woman once
who left him while
he was still doing time
her parting words 'i must
be free' ring out in
the terror of the night

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Breakdown

momma, don't be angry
is it something that we did
momma, don't ignore us
as we climb on top your bed

momma, we are hungry
it is past time we were fed
momma, you can't feed us
if you don't get out of bed

we're just little children
and we do not understand
why you lie there staring
at our tiny outstretched hands

momma, please forgive us
you're so far away it seems
we're young and we don't know
just what nervous breakdown means

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

But Sister

men-
they like to see us smile
no doubt
they like us cheerful
you say

but sister-
if it isn't them
that push
us toward a
joyless state

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Can You Hear Me Cry

can you hear me, Lord
when i cry
sometimes, i feel like
i could die
my cross is heavy
my path dark
the wounds i carry
leave their mark

can you hear me, Lord
when i cry
i am not hard yet
by and by
i wonder if you
hear me Lord
sometimes i do
cry to you

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Celebration Of Love

we celebrate birthdays
b e c a u s e
and so tonight
i help to celebrate
your day
not with wine
not with words
but with music
and with feeling
for the warmth
of your love fills me
and moves me
making me silent and calming
the storm inside me

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Chillin' With Bob Dylan

the man who said
bob dylan brought poetry
to the folk song
knew what he was talking about
dylan wrote songs that
spoke of things no one else
dared to sing about
a poet and a genious with words

he became larger than life
shied away from the public eye
some die-hard dylan fans
be chillin' with bob dylan on cd's knowing
his poetry will live forever in a song

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Christmas Cajun Style

in our house we like
our holiday cajun style
we'll laugh, dance
turn the music up high

we'll cook some jambalaya
and make a pot of gumbo, too
we don't want ham or turkey, no
but some crawfish ettufe' will do

we'll thank God that
we're together and wish
that you're safe and happy
whatever you may do

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Christmas Without You

this will be the first
Christmas in seventeen years
i will be without you
it hurts so bad to know you
won't be here with me

i try to think about
all the good times we had
instead of reliving your passing
for i'm sure if you could talk to me
you would tell me not to be sad

i'm not sure how i'll
make it through this other than
holding on to the hope
that we will be reunited
in the hereafter my beloved one

written 12-11-06

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Coarse Goodbye

there are times i can
think of nothing but you
though it's obvious
your love was far from true
i can't kick you
out of my bed for
our love-making was
all made in my head
(like you, always in the
back of my mind)

so, i shall rise above spite
but in the heat of the night
while entangled in
her amorous embrace
i hope against hope
your performance is dead-weight

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Come Love (And Let Me Whisper To You)

Oh love-
i still can not
believe i didn't
dream up yesterday
(you looked so
handsome and
so happy!)

oh love-
i would not
have thought it
possible that
someone like you
could fall
in love with me

i couldn't sleep
last night because
of you (i kept
thinking about how
nice it would be
to have you near me)

come love
and let me
whisper to you
i will tell you
how todays rain
played a love song
on my window pane
and you turned my
heavy heart into
a light one-

(life was never
quite as beautiful
as this) my love!

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Crazy Love

this feels awful
i'm not sure loving you
is worth the pain
you can either make
or break my day
by your attention
or lack of it

you are quickly
becoming something
close to an obsession
i like everything there
is about you
your eyes say it all
you move about zombie-like
my enchanted master

deep down i know
you lack the courage to
tell it like it is
so instead you stare
sometimes winking
at your love slave
willing to risk nothing

you can keep your
hungry eyes and empty arms
your well-kept secrets
i'll keep my fantasies
and shattered dreams
then crawl back into my shell
and silently mourn for
the love which is just
out of my reach

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Dance

dance dance dance
it's time for
a little romance
chance chance chance
catch my eye
and return my glance

dance dance dance
the music puts
me in a trance
do the mambo
with me baby
come on baby
let's dance

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Dark Is The Night

dark is the night
as she writes
the love lines
she will never say
to her beloved
loving him
from a distance
yearning for
the warmth of
a love beyond
her reach
composing poems
he will never read
yes, dark is the night
to a woman in need

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Days Like Today

i delight in
days like today
when we are alone
alone together
together alone

i will look
back later on
days like today and
remember the joy
of being loved

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Declaration Of Love

oh little trembling bee
i am finely tuned in
(to your wavelength)
and turned on by
your swaying body

thus i announce my desire
little bee my heart racing
at your name's mention
pale faced and weak in the
knees (when you're near)

i love your sweet glances
with all the chances
we are taking while trying
to disguise our inclination
toward one another

oh my little honey bee
you seem to stare so curiously
you're my soul's happiness
and it's torment supreme
oh little trembling bee-
hover over me

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Destiny's Child

loving the sound of words
she reads aloud in solitude
to an imaginary audience
dreaming one day she
will be a writer

a desire born and
a prayer on her lips
destiny's child at last
receives her moment
in the spotlight
infront of real people

she reads her work
and it is well received
now grown her childhood
dream becomes her realtiy
it was all along
her destiny

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Dirty Word

we're gonna talk to the menfolk
yeah, we're gonna say how we feel
we're sure gonna draw them closer
just to make things nice and real

what's the use of a voice
if it can't be heard
we feel connected when
we're uttering words

if you're only thinking it
it isn't real
so why don't they
just tell us how they feel

loving words are the sweetest words
the dearest a woman has ever heard
i don't know why it just is so
some men make talk a dirty word

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Dog Poetry

When the whole world's got you down
and the blues keep coming around
do not fear for i am here
and just for you i'll play the clown

i'll woof woof woof and howl
until i get you to smile
then i'll stop right at your feet
with a red rose between my teeth

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Don't Delete Me

i had a dream so very real
i awakened with a start
they were only words you
e-mailed me but they broke my heart

there will be no more instant messaging
no e-mails night and day
you found a new love in an on-line chat room
when i thought your love was here to stay

i could say don't delet me
from your address book but what good would it do
for i know one day our e-lationship will end
the way on-line romances often do

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Don't Ever Say I Didn't Love You

don't ever say i didn't love you
with everything i had
of all the people in all the world
you picked me to treat bad
i wasn't the one who cheated
nor the one who always liked to fight
if you'll remember it was you
who tried to make a wrong thing right

don't ever say i didn't love you
the way that a wife should
if anything most everyone would say
i treated you too good
i wasn't in it for myself
i loved you as good as anybody could

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Don't Remember Me

When my number comes up
and death draws near
i will depart this world
without regrets or fears
i hope i go as quietly
as i have lived my life
one full of both joy and strife
i don't want to be reembered
for being poetically correct
nor for awards my work begets
when you think of me
my last hope will be that
you see me as someone who
lived their dream of
connecting with humanity
through the languge of
my heart poetically

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Dreams

It is better to have lived half of your dream than to have never seen any part of it come true.

by faith elizabeth brigham

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Electricless

the wind howls
the electric has
been out for hours
restless hounds and
i hunker down
in the smothering heat
listening for an approaching train
they know a storm is
on its way
they lick my
sleepess and
sullen face as the tornado turns
and goes the other way

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

End Of Us

without you my days seem pointless
i wander aimlessly among the crowd
my mind in a state of complete chaos
wondering how and when and where things went wrong with us

i sit on the bench infront of the old greyhound bus station
one way ticket to nowhere in my hand mulling over
that night we stood outside your shrinks office when you mentioned our separating for the very first time

it almost seemed unreal as you refused to explain why you wanted to part in your haste to get away to who knows where
but i could sense this was the beginning of the end for us

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Erato

pay homage to erato
for she plays her flute
long into the night
her music as sweet
as the fragrance
of her crown of roses
the muse of love poetry
her inspiration lays
in waiting
for the poet's repetory

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Eternity

i have lived among nature
feeling close to the earth
grown exotic flowers
fed birds that made nests
in my hanging planters
for birthing their young
come the dawning of spring
watched a tiny jacaranda tree
grow into a thrilling beauty
with a little nurturing
took in homeless dogs
so i could save them from
an early unwarrented demise
and in their eyes i have
seen a glimpse of eternity
for they, as i have
witnessed God's beauty
in all living things
and seen a bit of eternity

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Eulogy For Winston

he had natural good taste
enjoying the finer things
in life while he was alive
he was a fine man with dignity
a nobleman of sorts
courageous and good-natured

his passing on at such a young age
tore my heart right from my chest
i recall the doctor saying his was
the worst case of epilepsy
he'd ever seen for nothing
could contol the seizures

he had a short life but
we loved him and saluted him
crying all the while
as we laid him in the cold dark ground
'so long captain winston
may you rest in peace
now that you've gone to where
all good dogs have gone'

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Ever Changing Man

I was told when i was young
men liked women who liked sex
because they were easy
but they never married them

and then i saw my father cheat
on my mother and then cheat on
the woman he cheated on her with
leaving me crushed and confused

when i grew up i read that
what men really sought was beauty
and then the writer dropped a bomb
saying unless she's too beautiful

the very beauiful woman is admired
and loved for the most part from afar
for the man is afraid of rejection
even when the door to her heart is ajar

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Evil

there is evil in the powder room
there is evil lurking in the halls
there's evil everywhere you look
it even pentrates the walls

it cares not who it helps or hurts
it's running rampant in this place
there's so much damage being done
it's such a horrible disgrace

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Fallen

one moment in time
the world stopped turning
the earth shook
my knees felt weak
heart thumped and breathless
life was dream-like
my body trembled
at your touch

in that one moment
time evaporated
our eyes solidly engaged
i knew without a single doubt
i had fallen for you
with a love second to none

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Fighting For The Gold

she glides across
the ice with style and grace
skating as though she owned the ice
nailing each jump with expertise
sailing through the required foot work
then completes the
combination spins with extreme ease
such beauty to behold fighting
for olympic gold

written 3-11-06

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Fixin'

i've been thinking
we have pc for dummies books
dog training books for dummies
all kinds of fix-it-yourself ones
to assist us with lifes problems
that sell like star wars dolls

but where are the books
for extracting sorrow for dummies
or for the pain some people
seem to be addicted to
or how to turn a sad person
into one of those happy campers

i struggle with the fear of loss
of losing loved ones
or precious good health
not to mention loss of
reputation which is something
once lost is difficult to retain

written 12-23-05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Flooding River

forbidden waters
makes one weak
a drowning man
knows no peace
flooding river
winding down
like a warden
grants no release

flooding river
gonna take my home
leave me
naked and alone
mean old river
so unkind
shows no mercy
leaves nothin' behind

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Flowers

i've never cared much
for flowery poems
but i do love
poems about flowers

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Forever

this could be the love
that lasts forever
or it could be the one
that ends tonight
at this moment as
your eyes look
directly at me
i feel such tender
feelings for you as you
take me in your arms
and lean so close to me

i can not help but think
you are the one for me
but you don't say much
of anything at all
tonight i feel your heart
is mine forever
but when tomorrow comes
i'll go back to wondering
if this is love to you
or just a fling

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Forever Yours

should the moon
retreat forever
behind a darkened sky
and all the stars
fall earthbound
without their
twinkling light
if the sun should
cease to rise
the clouds go
their separate ways
and all the birds
no longer soar
i still will
not forget you
for, in all truth
i am forever yours

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Fortunes Fool

in a rare moment of clarity
he realized his rise to riches
did not make him wiser
nor less boorish

having seen a vision
of his sole life's revision
life seemed nothing less
than a lie

throwing fortune to the wind
he will begin his life again
among the paupers without friends
once again

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

From The Heart

i seldom give advice
on the art
of writing poetry
that's left for
those i mentor
so now is not
the time to start

there's just one
thing i'm thinking
a suggestion for
what it's worth
when you write
write from the heart
for that's where
all great poems start

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Full Moon

a full moon came
and all the bars filled
up with drinkers
there are no empty beds
in all the psychiatric wards
things were jumping
in all of the detox units
and there you are
in the backyard silly dog
your cold wet nose
pointing at the moon
as you howl in
unison with all the
restless neighborhood mutts
pray tell the full moon
lightens up the night
and shines on the dark side
of the desperate and the doomed

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Gadgets Are A Girl's Best Friend

forget the diamonds
just give me gadgets
i want remote controls
for all the
household appliances
give me one for the
garage door, too
a gadget that opens
the trunk to my car
would be real cool

i'd like one of those
shampooers too that
cleans the rugs
when you're in
another room doing
something else that
requires an energy
saving gadget
gadgets aren't just
for men anymore
we women have
gadgets galore

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Game Of Love

the game must change
from time to time
or else it would
get boring
but i would rather
call love by
any other name

a woman should be
more to man than
just a passing fancy
but i suspect that
basically some men
see things
quite differently

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Gathering Pecans

fond childhood memories
of gathering pecans
from beneath the pecan tree
linger on
the sweet smell
of mother's sticky buns
baking in the oven

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Glow

a white duck
glowing in the dark
donning dark shades
to dim the light
its purple lips
pursed
mocking the night
a child's toy
and nothing more

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Go Away

i am not disturbed
as you would have me believe
nor am i troubled
i am agitated at
your cruel words
your piercing stares
your mere presence

if you are so unhappy here
why won't you go away
we both know we're
no good for each other
although it wasn't always so
maybe we have out grown
each other or at the very least
one of us doesn't want
it to work anymore

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Gone

prove me right
or prove me wrong
it will not matter
once i'm gone

prove me weak
or prove me strong
don't wait to love me
'till i'm gone

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Gone Wild

the world has gone wild
the universe erupting
with celelstial beings colliding
angering the hierarchy
bits of angel wings
floating down to earth
only a higher power
can restore peace and
grant mankind a
much needed reprieve

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Harmony

spring is my favorite time of year
i see flowering trees and bumble bees
butterflies show up most everywhere
i want to shout outloud that spring is here

just to stand beneath a waterfall
and feel the water rolling off of me
i feel close to God, man and nature
with all three i am in harmony

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Hate Has an Evil Face

hate has an evil face
a putrid taste
it reeks of weakness
and is such a waste
of human potential
even the sound of the word
has such a harsh tone to it

hate is a cancer on
the face of mankind
it creates havoc
destroying everything
in it's way
yes, hate has a very evil face

written 11-11-05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Hate Not Your Brother

hate not your brother
your father, sister, mother
for we are all connected
we are all God's children each and everyone

life has its hardships
no doubt more difficult for some
living in a world of unrest
we all still live as one under the higher power's sun

hate not your daughters nor sons
give them a love that makes them strong
teach them to help those less fortunate
for when we reach out to others we can't go wrong

written 11-11-05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Have A Heart

gentlemen, have a heart
and please-
don't start something
you can't complete

for a woman can know
what your eyes clearly show
and mistake this for
something she needs

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

He Read To Me

the first time that i heard your name
i thought that i would go insane
it sounded like a summer breeze
i was so young i could not explain
the wonderful thoughts running through my brain

i wanted to know just what your were
and father said nothing at first
but seemed to know i wanted to know
everything but instead he went
to get a book and i tried to get my first look

i never will forget the times he read to me
he had such a dramatic way of acting out the scenes
when he read edgar allen poe's 'the raven'
he scared the breath right out of me
and that is when i started my love affair with poetry

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Head Turner

she had it all
a beautiful face
with wide eyes
that drove men wild
long lustrous hair
an hourglass figure
and long gorgeous legs
at age fifty
she could still turn
mens heads regardless
of their age
she was a looker
way beyond her youth
yes, the kind of women
who could have
any man she chose
in all truth

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Her Radiant Beauty

She flys by sultry
as an egyptian queen
catching us by surprise
her two-tone colored wings
fluttering as she
lightly touches down
upon the lantana bush
gracing it with all
of her radiant beauty
as she brings with her
the early signs of
spring into the dawn
of its first day
at last she comes
the precious butterfly
to help us welcome spring

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Her Winning Smile

her lovely bonnet
a floral fantasy
of sorts
took first place in
the small town's
annual easter parade
bonnet's contest
but it was my
youngest sister's
winning smile
as she flaunted
her beautiful bonnet
that i remember most
it was nohing
short of priceless

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Hopeless Marriage

click, click, click
my fingers tapping
on the keyboard as
i work on a new piece
you come up behind me
right on schedule
telling me it's late
i tell you i want
to finish the line
i'm working on

you say you want
me to come to bed
i want you to
leave me alone
when i say i will
be there in a moment
we both know i'm telling
a little lie
you sigh and go
to bed alone

i send out my poem
as soon as it is complete
within a few short weeks
i get a check in the mail
you say you want to be
writer like me
i say i will help
you get a job writing
soon you are writing
newspaper articles
and keeping me up late

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

How Do You Say So Long

how do you say
so long to someone
who has given you
so much joy and happiness
for sixteen years
who now lays near-lifeless
in your aching arms

i can not say goodbye, dear one
i will not say goodbye
no, not now or ever
just rest well, my sweet angel
and know you were my love
yes, you were my life

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Hungry I Was When I Met Him

hungry i was when i met him
and hungry i always will stay
if the love that i have for my man
is ignored in a constant way

there's no joy left inside of me
my good years are wasting away
young i was when i met him
i'm just getting starved out with age

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Hurting Once Again

Lord, you know that I've been hurting.
Momma says it's growing pains.
Oh, you know that I've been hurting
Momma says it's growing pains.
Here I am a hurting, yes I'm hurting once again.

Well, I've been down to the river;
Lord, I went down there feeling fine.
Yes, I went down to the river;
Lawd, I went down there feeling fine.
But before I knew it, I was sitting there a crying.

Momma. said it just ain't easy.
Life's not always what it seems.
Momma said it just ain't easy.
Life's not always what it seems.
She said, 'You're just a poor girl with some crazy, mixed-up dreams'.'

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Ate Cake

i ate cake for breakfast
oh, you may think that i'm a fool
have your eggs and bacon
if you think that's what you should do

twas not just any cake
mine was a very special one
i ate all i wanted
of my left over birthday cake

it had just one candle
although i'm much older 'tis true
i'll start counting over
yes, if it's all the same to you

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Can Not Love You More

i can not love you more
than i have loved you
for i have loved you long
and held your love so dearly
in my heart of hearts but now
my eyes have opened
to find my heart in mourning

and when the first bird
sings outside my bedroom window
he sings a sorrowful song
for you have found me lacking
though i can not understand
the how and why of it
and yet my love for you
was gentle and long suffering

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Can Not Say How Long

i can not say how long ago
or where or when it was
i last thought of you
i only know that losing you
has taken time to mend
the pain of all the wounds
i suffered from your loss
all the nights i lost sleep
over you have taken a toll on me

i can not say i'll never love again
or how or when i will find a new love
i think the risk is still too
long in coming as is my growth
in knowing i am a woman now
for i have loved and came up
empty handed now to carry the burden
of learning to live without you, dear one

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Can Not Tell You That

i can not tell you that
i want to be your woman
your friend and lover
that you are perfect
in my eyes

i can not tell you that
you are in my heart
and you possess all of
the traits i want
in a man and a mate

that certain air
of confidence or self-assurance
you project
causes you to
stand above the rest
in your own quiet way

maybe one day
i will tell you
but not today
no, i can not tell you that
because i was brought up
believing i must wait
even in this modern age

written 1-21-06

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Can Not Wait For You

i can not wait for you
for i am sure
you have heard
i wait for no one
not even you
it has always been
this way and you
can not change things
i will come
whether you are ready
for me or not
but it is up to you
what you do with me
it has always been
up to you for
i was there when
you were born into
this world and
i will be there until
the very end

you may curse me
you may try your
very best to out wit me
but you can not win
for i was set in motion
long before you took
your very first breath
many times you
have struggled against me
but your efforts only
made matters worse
i could be your friend
if you would only trust me

you know me
all too well i suppose
telling you patience
is a virtue would only
make you hate me
oh, so many people waste me
for to them i am merely time
but you are beautful
in your own way so
use me wisely
for i am thine

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Could've Been You

i could've been you
if i were your age
in the current day
yes, you with the hair
in purposeful disarry
ring in one nostril
and ever so cautious
look in your eyes

i feel your pain
not in precisely
the same way you do
but i've been on
the edge of terror before
and when all is said and done
the fact remains i could've
been you (believe me, baby)
i know because i've been
where you have be

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Count The Minutes

i count the minutes
as they tick by
one at a time
i am lonesome
for you, my darling
whose life is over
never will i gaze
into your eyes
nor see your smile
no, not again

how shall i go on
will my pain cease
my heart beats slowly
the hours seem long
you would want me
smiling as in life
remembering
all the good times
darling, you know
they were all good times

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Envy The Woman Whose Lips

i envy the woman whose lips
your ample mouth has gently kissed
whose very look enslaves your soul
i ponder yet all i have missed

i envy her still whose arms
press you to her breasts so tenderly
who shares your secret hopes and dreams
and keeps your fire burning steadily

i envy the woman whose bed
your long lean body slumbers in
forgive my heart*s dear love desires
that which others consider a sin

i envy the woman i don*t even know
who possesses what i can only desire
to be empowered by someone so fine
i envy her body - her soul on fire

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I May Not Like You Better

i may not like you better
when i've come to know
what's really going on
inside your head for i know
how easily paradise is lost
when out of sight means
you're all but forgotten

i may not like you better
when i've come to know
the truth and i've
lost my last appeal but
i'll remember the moments
of magic not to mention
the gentleness of your touch

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Miss You

i miss you mostly
in the morning
when i realize
i've still another day
to face without you

sometimes, i miss you
in the late afternoon
when you'd call
and say we'll spend
the weekend together

and then i miss you
in the evening
when losing you
hurts the worst
and i go to sleep alone

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Shall Not Meet Your Steady Eyes

i shall not meet your steady eyes
nor listen to your silent cries
love me, love me, love me, love me
or else i'll surely die

i've believed your eyes too many times
only to get disappointment in return
so i shall pass by quietly
lest i once again get burned

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Shall Not Wander Far

you know better than anyone
how to entice me
and i am here for you
as surely as the night
turns into day
would knowing that
you've occupied my dreams
tend to disturb you
i dare not tell you all
though i'm not ashamed
to say we sank to heaven
in each others arms

yes, i've loved you to excess
you are my hope, my liking, my life
i adore your eyes
so full of fire
i shall not wander far
forever true for so gentle
a man exists in you and yet
with the slightest touch
of your hand
my pulse goes wild

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Shall Want Need Nothing

i shall want
need nothing
no, as i thee wed
amongst this
black-red flower bed

and with
this ring i,
thee, we are one
to life
i am yours
and yours a wife

bright sun less
warm than our love
and smiles bright
upon us. upon all
come we before
night it is

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Will Love You

I will love you-
as long as you want me to
love you and longer still
i will stand by your side
for eternity if you will

see the longing i have for you
as i look deep in your eyes
i feel a spiritual connection
once born that never dies

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I Write

i write because
i reside in
a world of words
cut from
a different cloth
i view life
through a
poet's eyes

i'm a seer
a seeker of
beauty and truth
i have something
to say and
i am driven
to say it

i write
because writing
is in my blood
and i can not
not write
it's such a
part of me

i write
about raw reality
and the things
i see aren't
always pretty
writing as though
my very life
depends on it
and some days it
is the total truth

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

If A Woman Is Likened To A Water Glass

if a woman is likened to
a water glass in a man's eye
to be picked up and sipped from
when the notion hits him
women stay dry

men are the water well
brimming with power
always somewhere else
attending to the important matters
content to dole out their attention
like mother did her lumpy mashed potatoes

sometimes women need a little
space too to be alone
to gather their thoughts and
mostly men do return
to their thirst-drenching wife-lover-friend

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

If Only

i will be awake
before the morning light
wishing you were
here by my side
as always you will
be the first thing
i will think
about when i arise

i never say
i love someone
if it isn't so
but you have gone
and now you will
never know how
my feelings
for you forever grow

there isn't
a day that goes by
i don't
think about your
engaging smile
how you walked
the way you talked
and how you loved me
if only for a while

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

If Singers Sing

if singers sing
and writers write
then it must be so
that poets poe

i love to poe
each single word
comes from deep within-
not so absurd

i don't do wash
nor run and shop
i just keep poeing
until i drop

if singers sing
and writers write
then it just makes sense
we poets poe

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

If Wishing Made It So

if wishing made it so
we'd be lovers you and i
but i have my husband still
and you your lovely wife

so instead we go our
separate ways disturbed
by unfullfilled desire
with no way to
extinguish the fire

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I'll Still Smell The Roses

i'll still smell the roses
so precious and sweet
the scented pine needles
as they hang from the trees

i'll still hear the lonely hounds
at night as they bay
see the sky far above me
be it blue or at times gray

then someone someday
will mention your name
and i'll feel regret in my veins
for in my heart your love remains

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

I'm Glad You're Here (With Me

i'm glad you're here (with me
and i with you) warm and
waiting wondering
what might happen next

is what was meant to be
between two lovers anyway
what of the words spoken
in haste never matters now

with gentle fingers probing
moving slowly downward
to regions in between
to touch honey to drown

with lips tender to warm
the breath of all breaths
and words love comes in
gasps and whispers i'm glad

you're here with me
and i with you
holding you beholding you
in love's sweet aftermath

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Imperfect Starts

the guy who's doing the books
is forever following around
the guy who does the printing
who is following around the gal
who answers the telephone
to see what the deal is with her
because there just might be
something more than photos developing
between them in the darkroom

but the secretary, who is tall
and thin and looks like a model
understands the way things are
and is one smart cookie who knows
the owner is an even smarter one
who doesn't much like socializing
in the office so she tries
to act aloof around the printer
who is prone to play the fool for her

nevertheless, she's already taken
but can't make up her mind
if she wants to stay that way or not
because marriage ain't so hot to her
(but they don't that) and
everyone-except maybe the secretary
seems to be acting a little nervous

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

In A Moment Of Temptation

in a moment of temptation
i prayed for my salvation
lured in by your attention
and absolute perfection

to do something very foolish
knowing better but not to do it
something seemingly so harmless
for your flirting never quit

i have no right to love you, sweets
i would never claim i did
but you told me that you loved me
still my love for you i hid

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

In God's Eyes

if God has made
everything beautiful
in its' time
then you are beautiful
and so am i
we are all beautiful
in God's eyes

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

In My Dreams

there is a special place i go
if only in my dreams
it's filled with many flowers
an ocean, waterfall and streams
there are no signs directing me
but i know which way to go

the stone-white wall hides it all
from beauty and truth's foes
i always stop to take a swim
this i seem to do with perfect ease
upon awakening i feel so free-
filled with peace and serenity

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

In Solitude

in solitude i rest
washing my bones
one section at a time
feeling my body relax
entrenched in self-hypnosis
my body now seems as
light as cotton candy
the stress from
a distressing day dissipates

my mind now clear
except for the mixture
of pictures inside my head
envisioning lines to write
inspired by a heavenly guide
i know i will push
my pen long into the night

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

In The Dog House

give me a little time
and i'll get over
being angry with you
for making my day
a bigger challenge
than it would've been
without you here
the simple truth is
i can't stay mad at you

sometimes it seems
you are in the dog house
more than you are out
but i guess that's life
with you canine creatures
growling and fighting
chewing things you
ought not to be gnawing on
and dropping carpet bombs
in every imaginable spot

i'm always mopping
and cleaning up after
i've been away at work
all day just wanting
to relax and put
my feet up for a while
but that's the way
it is with us humans
still the three of you
are a terrific trio
and i do cherish you

written 11-5-05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

In The Woodlands

there you are deep in the woodlands
dancing where the fireflies abound
no one would even know you*re there
if it wasn*t for the baying of the hounds

you sprinkle all your magic dust
where it is needed most
the garden is your favorite spot
behind our house on the eastern coast

what you do and where you go
it matters not to me at all
i only know it thrills me so when
i watch the faeries spring time ball

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

in your heart

it's what's
in your heart
that really matters
let it be love
and peace
and laughter
a bit of kindness
and compassion
wouldn't hurt
for that matter

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

It Doesn't Take Much

it doesn't take much
to make me happy-
all i need is
a good book of poetry
a soft furry dog
curled up on
the foot of my bed
a God of mercy
to believe in
and when i feel
like killing myself
i make a pizza instead

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

It Isn't Love

it isn't love that hurts
it is the fear of
losing love
the disappearing passion
the separation
or final break-up
that causes anguish
no, it isn't love
that hurts at all

written 1-21-06

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

It Was Good (To Be Bad)

to return to center stage again
i'd repeat that worn-out lie
 to relive the warmth and pleasure
i would sulk, pout and cry

i would've preferred a gentle hand
with an occasional pat on the back
but rather than get indifference
i learned it was good to be bad

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Jacaranda

spring is my favorite season
i slipped outdoors and
stood under our stately
jacaranda tree in bloom
such graceful leaves and
flowers stunning and pretty
as finely written poetry

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Journey

i met a young mother
whose skin was all whithered
a broken-hearted lover
whose eyes were all swollen
a young lady laughing
with teeth that were broken
a father singing hymns
a son whose feet were both bandaged
i heard a prophet saying
the world if full
of both gives and takers

i spoke with some men
who had no agenda
i saw chidren playing
hearts pure as the snow
'neath their boots
i saw dead people talking
and live people walking like zombies
i heard young girls who were weeping
a professor sleeping

the users are winners
the winners negated
some warm-hearted people
shivering in the cold
some bad men living
life all alone
old women in trousers
staying close to their homes
too many people left dying alone

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Just Breasts

Jiggling
Up-turned
Sensuous
Tantalizing

Beautiful
Round
Enormous
Alluring
Sagging
Tiny
Sexy

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Killer Woman Blues

If you're looking for romance
Darling, don't you look for me.
If you're looking for romance
Darling, don't you look for me.
I've got a bad habit of wanting
things that aren't good for me.

I don't blame you, Sweetheart
for wanting your fun.
I don't blame you, Sweetheart
for wanting your fun
But you know as well as I do
you can get that from anyone.

I love you, Darling, oh yes
you mean that much to me.
I love you, Darling, it's true
you mean that much to me.
But your kind of loving is the kind
that makes my poor heart bleed.

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Kiss Me

kiss me-
no, not there
but on the
side of my neck
like you used
to do to turn
me on and tell
me you love me
even though
the years have
turned my hair white
and i've
a few wrinkles
here and there

kiss me-
and tell me
i am still sexy
even though
its been years
since we
last made love
i have kept
myself up for you
waiting for
this very moment
just to be
with you once more

written 11/19/05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Kiss The Cats Goodbye

'sgetem
yes, let's get them
those three words rolled into one set off
a barking frenzy
sent them charging the sliding glass door
abhoring the neighbor's cats that taunted them
from the patio
long after the fence went up to keep the cats at bay
kiss the cats goodbye
silly dogs

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Lady

ah, there is such beauty in lady's soft sweet eyes
i swear God take me if it isn't so
i see in them a bit of heaven
a fleeting glimpse of you

but God if there's no heaven
(although i doubt that this could be)
then let me go where lady goes
when her days on earth are through

it's true i've loved her more than most
of the people i have known
but she's been more true than
my truest friend and
a comfort through the years

i never dreamed a dog could be
all that she's meant to me
so, i pray dear God
take everything from me
but leave me my sweet lady

her fur is still so soft to the touch
though she's getting on in years
she's aged so well no one can tell
she's lived a dozen years

ah, lady's given me such pleasure
i can't imagine us apart
so dear Lord the day that
you must take her will be the day
that my heart breaks

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Lady Grows Up

lady was the friendly hound
who stopped every morning to chat
with the contentious black cat
who waited for her down the street

she spent the summer running free
chasing rabbits through the woods
catching one upon occasion
and hiding in the tall green grass

in the fall she gave birth to six pups
one of which we decided to keep
winston follows her around now
prancing about tail curling like
a question mark suspended in air

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Leave No Leaf Untouched

leave no leaf untouched
for love is like
an autumn breeze
that turns the leaves
gently as they
make their journey
downward to the ground

leave no leaf unfurled
for life like love
is spirit-filled
for those who
take the risk
all leaves are
cherished and colorful

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Let's Be Real

baby, please don't
handle me with kid's gloves
fluff up my pillow
beat around the bush
sugar-coat your words
keep secrets and such
you should know
atleast this much
i have nothing to prove
and i can take anything
as long as it's the truth

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Letters From Ed

Upon reviewing your lovely
type-written letters
safely placed in a three-ring binder
it is almost like having you here
your rasping voice insisting i
please consider your few minor
changes in my lines followed
most often by your asking me
not to be angry with you please

i am sure you were sure
i never listened to you-
my mentor and friend
for so many years
but i learned more about writing poetry
from you than you will ever know
mostly because your sudden passing
robbed me of the chance to
tell you just exactly how i felt

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Lifeless

coarsen graves...
the blistering afternoon sun
baking the boquets
ontop of them
left as lifeless as
those they were placed
to pay homage to

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Like A Stranger

you had no way of knowing
as you sat down next to me
you seemed just like a stranger
someone i knew just vaguely
instead of someone who said
they loved me constantly

you asked about our old dog
i relayed to you she'd died
i said i could not tell you
as all i could do was cry
you seemed to understand why
i had kept it all inside

you turned around to face me
there was sadness in your eyes
the life we'd had together
was destroyed by all your lies
i had no way of knowing
that you were going to die

no, i did not know that day
i'd never see you again
they said you'd died swiftly
when your car was hit head on
there are things i could tell you
but i can't because you're gone

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Little Bird

i watch for the mailman
as a child waits for santa clause
hoping for news from you-
no word comes

you don't know what
you do to me
i am trapped-
a prisoner in my own home

one day you'll return
from africa or germany
or where you've been
to find your little bird
has flown it's cage

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Little Life You're Welcomed So

where did it all begin
and lord will it ever end
all the pain inside me
oh, lord come down and hide me

oh, i lost a sweet love
but i can't cease to exist
letting go the closeness
and the sweetness of his kiss

inside me grows a child
whose father never did know
love has made this child grow
little life you're welcomed so

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Lizzie Borden

a simple whack or two
with the ax wouldn't do
she kept on whacking till
she was through
reducing the family
to only two

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Lookin' For A Good Man

It happened one evening.
It was not so long ago.
It happened one evening.
It was not so long ago.
I heard my baby walking.
He walked right out the door.

I just sit here crying.
Lawd, I've got nowhere to go.
I just sit here crying.
No, I've got nowhere to go.
When my baby left me
He took my heart and soul.

I keep going to the window.
Lawd, I'm just staring at the night.
I keep going to the window.
Lawd, I'm just staring at the night.
I keep looking for a good man,
One who is gonna treat me right.

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Love And Anticipation

i am beside myself
with anticipation
of your long look
and flirtateous smile
when neither come
i turn my head away
to hide the disappointment
showing on my face

then comes the long-awaited
moment you approach me
saying the words i have
feared you would never say
but on this occasion
you say them following
a most anticipated wink
that followed a smile
that made my heart go wild
i awoke from my dream before
i could say i loved you as well

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Love Feast

since we've got
soul food
brain food
bird seed
sea weed
how come
we don't have
love food
i know a lot
of folks
hungry enough
for it
to attend
a love feast

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

love gone wrong

your words you
used as weapons
to bully and degrade
have left their
welts well buried
inside my shattered heart
feeling guilty for the
harm you caused
is not within
your troubled soul
you've rationalized
each wrongful act
your heart so very cold

i thought you'd love me
forever and a day
but now i know
that caring is not
your coarse hearts way
i cannot take
you back now i've
found some peace of mind
i'm searching for a love
that i can trust this time

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Love Is Everything

Love Is Everything
if i should live to be one-hundred
i still shall not forget
the love that lives deep inside of me
the one that never quits

i found a touch of heaven
in the brush of his finger tips
there was magic in the soft words
he whispered with tender lips

to a woman love is everything
she puts her whole heart in it
and even when all hope is gone
her mind still dabbles in it

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Love Lies

you called me
your destiny
knowing full well
you weren't free
and never would
break the ties
that binde you
to your head-strong
wife and mother
of your children

you chased after me
everywhere i went
you were there
speaking tender love lies
wanting me to believe
i was your favored one
when it was your wife
whom always came first

now, standing alone
so many years after
the day my heart
fell at your feet
i no longer grieve
over the fact
i was nothing more
to you than
a psychological trophy
sad but wiser now
i accept my destiny

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Love Light

if you took
the sun and the moon
and all of the stars
put them in a room
their light could
not compare to
the brightest of light
in my delight
as i gaze into
the shimmering eyes
of the love
of my life
yes, my baby's love
is almighty bright

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Love Me

do you love me
if you do
please tell me so
that is all
i ever wanted
i really want to know

it seems like
we get closer
with each passing day
i love you, darling
in a very special way
each night i pray
you will never go away
so darling

do you love me
do you want me
the same way i want you
it would make
my heart feel glad
to know you loved me too

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Lovers Name Game

yes, i remember
that game we used to play
a kind of mental foreplay
we started with a simple phrase
the kind of words that
lovers say
to indicate their
lovestruck state
nicknames all the same
taking turns until
we ran out of
creative love coos

ah, i recall the
fun of making up
what might very well be
the longest term
of endearment ever...
you, sweetie-pie, lambykins,
sugar-baby, darlin', honey-bunch, cutesy-wootsy, lovey dovey, heart-throb, honey babe,
sweetie-deety, kissy face,
hotsy-totsy, sweetheart,
baby doll, shmookems,
YOU!

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Loving The Wrong Man

loving the wrong man
is what i do best-
the distant man
the man already taken
the forbidden one
who can't quite
get it (whatever
it is)
right at home

and you (with all
of your charms)
i'll probably end up
disliking you too
after i have gotten
all of the love
that i can get (although
i can't even imagine
that now) as we stand
here puffing on
our cigarettes
alone for the very
first time
making polite conversation
and sharing a
few good stares

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Made For Lovers

it was spring and not
summer that was made
for lovers and the roses
were designed in such a way
they say i love you without words
like the rose lovers don't need
words either but they do
love the roses

is it for their beauty
or their precious scent
the delicate petals
like velvet and the thorns
that pierce your finger
like a faithless lover
that wounds the innocent
ones caring heart

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Magic Of The Rose

the bees go buzz, buzz, buzz
and do what they must do
to polinate the roses
the faerie waits until they're through
to add a bit of magic
she will give the rose a kiss or two

not even the rain can ruin
the magic of the rose
for when a faerie kisses it
the magic seals itself inside
so when you smell the roses
you can feel the faeries pride

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Matchbook Cover Blues

i could write
a poem
as i envision
your handsome face
but i'm alone
with only a pen
and a book
of matches
to my name
what a dilemma
so many words
so little space

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Moonlight Lovers

half-moon hanging
between two lone stars
the night air filled
with the scent
of moonflowers glistening
white against the night
i feel like smoking
but i gave up
cigarettes
long ago
i think of the
endless evenings
we sat on the loveseat
out on the patio
talking half the
night away
and then made love
beneath the stars

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

More To Love

there must be more
to love than pain
though i'm far more familiar
with chaos and uncertainty

is it any wonder
i'm attracted to you
who can not give me
what i long for most of all

the day i won't need you
anymore is when i can believe
it's no longer worth
the trouble winning you

it's not enough to love someone-
you ought to get love back

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Mr. Nobody

nameless face
leaving traces
of a depraved mind
etched in
her memory
frail sad soul
see how she weeps
her innocence robbed

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

My Dear Lucille

dear lucille, dear lucille
did someone teach you
the beauty of truth
did someone preach to you
when you were in your youth

to tell the truth even
when it rips apart the
canvas of constructed lies
or makes ripples in the waters
of the great mississippi gulf-side

the world needs more women like you
with guts glorious as they come
withstanding adversity at it's worse
with words weighs heavy, woman
let 'em flow, lady, let 'em flow

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

MY Soul Is Like

my soul is like
a spiritual muscle
without adversity
it receives no exercize
it is limp and motionless
of little use in my eyes
sometimes it seems
i am tested far
beyond my strength
every inch of my soul
feel streched to the limit

and just when i reach
the point i think i can not
endure any more stife
i cry out not knowing
what you want from me
yes, you know what
it is doing to me
like you know the number
of hairs on my head
you send me the help
i need to go on and
make me stonger in the end

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

My Sweet Heaven

please consider
these few points
before you walk away
from me forever
you love me and
are still in love with me
your love means more
to me than everything
all couples have
their disagreements
but they kiss, make up
make love and press onward
with a new understanding
of each others needs
and we need not be
any different than the rest
your love has been
my sweet heaven
forever leading
me back to my real self
ever so steadily

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Never Love A Cold-Hearted Man

never love a cold-hearted man
his mind is full of trickery
and ice runs through his veins
he will break your heart into
a million tiny pieces and
you will spend all of your time
attempting to retrieve the pieces

bandaging the wounds his
careless remarks thrown like darts
have left on your battered ego
he, who in his own mind sees himself
as master of the universe sees
you as his puppet and
he gets some kind of thrill
from manipulating your strings

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

No Jive

i was born a loner
a dreamer and a poet
well, wouldn't you know it
i got poetry to show it
it's theraputic for me
the greatest release

i'll read it and write
speak out with a mic
finally found my niche
in life
this ain't no jive

gotta do my part
to keep poetry alive
i made a commitment
to it and i gotta
keep it
i just can't quit it

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

No Need To Rush

when i was a child
i dreamed of being free
spending hours thinking
what i could be
now, many years behind me
my thoughts remain the same
and i haven't changed my name
but there are somethings
better left to someone who knows
there's no need to rush it
rushing only causes pain

you told me you'd meet me
at second and st. clair
and when you didn't show
were you sure i'd be there
sometimes it's hard to wait
sometimes it's better to be late
say who wants to watch the tents go up
and the circus clowns coming down

honey, it's been said before
honey, don't you know
it goes both ways
some people sleep util morning
some people sleep all day
some people fight for freedom
some say it doesn't pay
oh, nobody wins at every game
and there's no need to rush it
rushing only causes pain

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

No One Really Knew Her

we all wondered
what she was doing
the day the tornado
raised her house and
then let it down
with overpowering force

it was anyone's guess
what was on the docket
for the day but
one thing was for certain
that woman buried
beneath the debris was
a very vain woman
no one except maybe
a conceited woman
could own all those clothes

no matter now all
that was left of her life
was the silk dresses draped
over the tall lovely pines
leaving us to wonder
well no one really knew her

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Not All Love Is Pure

not all love is pure
this my dear, you must know
still my love for you is always
as fresh as the morning snow

since our separation
i've cried an ocean of tears
for the hand that fate has dealt us
has given life to all my fears

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Nothin' But Trouble

When I woke up this morning,
I was so full of misery.
Yes, when I woke up this morning,
I was so full of misery.
I knew I had to face up to
Just what you're doing to me.

(chorus)

You're bad news, Baby.
You're the cause of my misery.
You're bad news, Baby.
You're the cause of my misery.
You're nothing but trouble.
That's all you could ever be to me.

I did my best for you, Darling.
But what good did it do?
I did my best for you, Darling,
But what good did it do?
Now, I find you're the kind of man
Who will always be untrue.

You can't love somebody,
If you don't know what love means.
You can't love anybody,
If you don't know what love means.
I know I've got to let go
And quit this crazy scene.

repeat chorus

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Nothing

according to my recollection
i remember nothing
about you
mostly because you
were born before me
soon diappearing
as though the earth
swallowed you whole
i had six sisters
growing up
without a brother
never knowing you
were adopted off
being lied to
about your existence

i don't know much
about you at all
never saw your picture
never knew your name
for all i know
you could be
living next door
or be any one
i might pass by
in the street

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Now That The Loving's Over

you say
you want to
be my friend
now that the
loving's over
but please-
don't bother
as you never
treated your
friends any
better than
you ever
treated me

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Oh, My Soul

oh, my soul-
some say it is
an old one
others say it is
quite deep
but no one knows
my heart-felt joy
nor the tears
i sometimes weep

oh, my soul
has work to do
in its search
for beauty and truth
i see God in everyhing
as i have done
since i was
in my youth

oh, my soul
if i should pass
i'll know my
work here is done
but while i am
still on this earth
i'll speak my piece
out of a need
to be heard through
the written word

Written 11/19/05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

On A Rain Sent Summer's Day

did we not
on a rain-sent summer's day
sky filled with thunder
hide beneath your bolero
ground wet with rain

inquisitive man
that you were then
kissing first my eyelids
then slowly but surely
you kissed my lips
pressing your warm body
next to my own

you trespassed slowly
growing bolder
with each whimpering sound
that found it's way
up to my throat
somehow you never
noticed i was crying

did we not
discardng your damp bolero
wonder when the rain had stopped
rolling in the wet grass
your laughter filling the air
i fully realized
what i had only sensed before

it wasn't me
who filled your soul with longing
it wasn't me
who filled your heart with joy
you called me by another
woman's name more times
than i care to remember
so much for rain-sent summer days

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

On Beauty

the eye sees what it wants to see
it is beauty and truth that i seek
a flower opening in the morning light
a child's laughter or a dog's delight
at it's owners return home
i see the Master's hand in everything
wherever my eyes roam

the mind believes what it wants to believe
and i still believe there is hope
as long as there is breath
in all beings large or small
i feel closest to my Maker
amongst nature and it's
endless array of radient beauty
and in the truth in the poet's pen

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

On Love

Have you told someone you loved him?
Have you told him yet today?
Have you told him how his friendship
Has brightened up your day?

Have you stopped and kissed him on the cheek? Embraced him with a smile?
Or have you taken him for granted
as you've travelled many miles?

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

One Blue Rose

i guess that i will never know
why it is you had to go
you never even said goodbye
you just left me one blue rose
on the pillow where your head had been
until i awoke i had never thought
that i would wake up all alone
so now i see as days go by
there's nothing left to do but cry
and think of how the rose will die
it's beauty soon to fade away

i'll place the rose between the pages
of my favorite poetry book
then someday when i'm feeling brave
i will open the book and take a look
at the one blue rose you left for me
whose message is still unclear to me
for i did not know anything was wrong
until i saw that you were gone

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Only For A Moment

only for a moment
as the rain
fell on my face
your body long and lean
played on my memory

it was winter once more
as we lay
in each others arms
fireplace ablaze
so far away that place
once was none as laurel farms

i was still
so unsure reaching
for you in the night
words so softly spoken
as your heart beat
close to mine

then the sun
came shining and warmed
the sand beneath my feet
as quickly as
you came i felt you
leave my memory

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Only Words

painted lady laughing
longing for a ticket
to take a roller coaster ride
with memories of a
long lost lover
once aboard the
riverboat queen
who was swept
out to sea

she cries out
inaudible screams
hearing only words of
drunken sailors dreams
while twilight brings
her promise of
a new day all she feels
is loneliness and pain

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Opposite Hounds

i'm the proud owner
of two opposite hounds
one is as thin as
the other is round

one gets up early
the other one sleeps in
one is real active
one is lazy as sin

if i had to pick
which one i like the best
i couldn't decide
they're just opposites

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Our Fate Was To Part

i do not speak
nor dream of you
seldom do i
think of you
but when i see you
my mind is schemeing
my heart is bleeding
and i am praying
my eyes won't betray me
for my temptation
is so great

for a moment
i long for
your tender embrace
for a moment
i long to touch
your sweet face
for a moment i think of
your warm lips on mine
as lastly i dream
of our bodies entwined

then i remember
the lies you so
frequently told
ah, i remember
the nights and how
they grew cold
i think of
the pain that
pierced through
my heart
your love was like poison
and our fate was to part

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Outcast

God only knows
that could be me
bottle in hand
face down
in the street
he's been branded
by society
no doubt an outcast
in this age
of throw-away things
but no one
knows his pain

why must the drunkard
suffer for so long
a survivor in
a world gone wrong
why is he held
in such contempt
and not shown
a lttle mercy

skid row, skid row
it's the only
home he knows
gone are his hopes
and long forgotten dreams
left to die there
so it seems

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

passions rush

red hot beads of sweat
trickle down
your burning forehead
a half gasp
comes up through your throat
we unite
our hearts entwined

souls touching
you kiss my warm lips
then whisper
'i love you...
you fine looking woman! '
i'm blushing
oh, sweet passions rush!

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Peace Brother Peace

a gentle breeze blows ocean side
the easter lilies usher in the spring
and there you are with your guitar
won*t you play a song for me

cat sang about a peace train and
john imagined the world living
together in harmony but oh how now
world peace seems a far gone thing

there are so many questions
unanswered so it seems to me
while i remember days gone by
when we sang songs of love and peace

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Poe Haven

ohmygod
i think i've
taken up residence here
such a lovely place
among some real talented
and friendly folks

so many poems
i make time
to read and write
vote and comment on
get inspired by
the poets poeing
yes. i think
i've found poe haven
if you don't get it
you just don't get it

written 11-11-05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Poetmaster

the aged poet
a prophet and
master of the
art of connecting
the right words
making them into
electric lines
creating perfect
poems
knows just where
the invisible line
divides tameness vs.
wild
he is himself electrifying
and that is why
he is the poetmaster

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Poetry Unearthed

i get my daily bread in small doses
pondering lifes wonders
trying to view life
through someone elses' eyes
i saw a woman with her arms full of homegrown potatoes
woke to the sound of all three dogs barking
danced to a song sung by janis joplin
drank hot herbal tea to ward off cancer
wrote me a verse that helped me feel centered

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Poets Are The Way They Are

poets are the way they are
because they were born that way
they are the sensitive souls
crying out to be heard

the rapt attention given
to their own feelings
easily spills onto the page
emerging from the very core
of their being

poets take the world seriously
while still being able
to laugh at themselves from
time to time and they are
driven to do what they do

poets are the way they are
they believe in the beauty
of their dreams

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Precious Eyes

they look like
they're flirting
(it isn't right)
but then i
have no claims
on the man

their laughter
innocent or not
discourages me
forcing me to feel
i n s i g n i f i c a n t

perhaps, i protest
too much
but darn it all
those precious eyes
of his did court me
for a while

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Precious Love

when i think about
the time we spent together
memories of your precious love
still makes me smile
i have never felt as
loved by any man since
you left this earth for
a higher resting place as
your work down here was done

you were one of the
greatest men i have ever known
you always brought
out the very best in me
showed me there was still
a playful side to me
if you can hear me from above
you know your precious love
is etched in my heart for eternity

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Quicksand

with your feet so firmly planted in the quicksand
is it any wonder you're going down fast
did you ask yourself how such a happy man
could be so lonesome with all the friends he has

so you light yourself another cigarette
drink another beer just to try and forget
when the going gets rough and you've had enough
you crawl back into bed and cover up

dear, i wish that i could reach you
there's so much that i could teach you
sometimes i wish i didn't care
what i say just falls on deaf ears

there's no point in getting angry anymore
and i guess i'll go on living anyway
but there's no point in pretending it won't hurt me as you turn around and walk the other way

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Rhythmn And Harmony

she belongs to the earth
her star-filled eyes sparkle
windblown hair picture perfect
her electric frame illuminates
amidst the moonless night
with waves splashing
at her feet
she nutures the sea
her heart's desire
to be in rhythmn and harmony
with celestial seasons

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Romantically Me

i got a lot of
poetic ways
a lot of poetic sayings
i got some real rhymin'
poems
some small and
some real tall
some that really flows
others who knows

some say i live
a poetic life
that's 'cause i
ain't nobody's wife
see, i got married once
but the poor man
didn't stand a chance
as quite truthfully
i was already
married to my pc
driven to write
my poetry

i got poetry
i got lots to pen
still more to see
get inspired even
in my dreams
'cause i eat, sleep
and breathe poetry
'cause i'm living
my dream
i got to be heard
through the written word
it's a need in me

i got to say
if i couldn't write
with passion
i wouldn't write
at all but
what i say i mean
to say and this all
came to me
straight from my heart
a little experimental poetry
it doesn't always rhyme still
it's really real
and most of all

it's romantically me

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Say Anything

i never say anything
i don't mean
nor do i say anything
just to be mean

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Secrets

if i told you that
i loved you
would you turn around
and walk away
or would you stay
and let me love you
with a love long lasting
and forever true

i have kept my love
for you a secret
but i can not shut
it inside much longer
i'm losing my hold

you told me you're
so proud of me
but you can't show it
still i know it
won't you tell me more
of your heart's secrets

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Sensitivity

Sensitivity is a good thing...
I think you could use some.

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Shadows

the light is going fast
and you'll soon see
or maybe say (like
other men have said) you
look best in shadows
it's those high cheekbones
so-called bedroom eyes
the this or that of you

it's supposed to
be a compliment but
you don't see the same things
i see in the darkness
mainly the shadow
of the shadow

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Sharing A Soul

who can help a girl in trouble
the answer is no one
if there's nobody that cares
when it's her soul she bares
and it's her soul she shares
the president can't help
the senators can't help
not even the govenor
can do a single thing
when the tables are turned
but the lesson learned
is no one wants to know

the truth is elusive
depending on who they
decide to believe
and they all stick together
so who do you think
will be there to
make a wrong thing right
when everybody's busy
living their life
taking care of
their own affairs
but they don't know
sharing a soul
can make it whole

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Since Then I've Gladly Come To Know

since then i've
gladly come to know
you cry, as do i,
at sad shows and your
fantasy life is
as rich as mine

i suspect we've
both wondered what
if we were curious
enough to try our
dreams on for size

since then i've
gladly come to know
you will not harm me
nor judge me for
the things that
i have done

and when i say
let us go slowly now
for once you've done
a thing regrettably
you can't undo it
you understand, nod
your head and say
'sure baby, i'll try'

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

So What

i've been told many times
i'm too sensitive
that may be so but so what
i'd rather be that way than
hard or cold-hearted
or even indifferent

i keep looking for some place
that's having a sale on thick skins
the portable kind
you can pull out of your purse
for when someone is being cruel
can't find one not even in the classifieds

i've always said sensitivity is
a good thing and if you don't agree
so what it doesn't do
any good to tell me any different
maybe if you could be in my skin
say for just one day
you'd be sensitive too

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Something Else

what do men want
you say i don't know
but i know what
men want
you ask what then
men want something else
other than what
other than what they
have of course

you admit for some men
that's true
why waste what you have
worrying about
what you don't have
and what will you want
once you've lasso'd me
something else-or what?

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Sometimes

it makes it difficult
to love you when you
withhold things from me
like you are keeping
secrets and things
sometimes

it is sad to see
you trying so hard
to be somebody because
we're all somebody
trying to be our best me
sometimes

we used to have such fun
you could make me
laugh till i had tears
filling my eyes
i understand you be ill now
sometimes

so many sad memories
floating in my mind
like how you stayed
out all night and
i woke up with an empty
space beside me in bed
i still think about those times
sometimes

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Spam Slam

who doesn't slam spam
it takes up space
eats up our time
discarding it
it is terribly
a n n o y i n g
i have given up
fighting it

spammers beware
the only part of
your annoying mail
i read is at the end
where there are
countless jumbled phrases
always attempting to make
the best of a bad situation
i pick out a word or two
and write a poem
thanks to you

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Speechless

there are no words
i can say that could ever
express the depth on my pain
rendered speechless by
your abrupt departure

you left me at the precise
moment i needed you the most
your cutting remarks wounding
me as never before

you will not witness
the endless flow of tears
or know what hunger
left me wanting just your touch
or a bit of understanding
the kind most lovers
take for granted day by day

you, who i have waited for
six long years hanging on
in the hope that just once
you would level with me
instead of making promises
you never planned to keep
so much for long-distance romances
that leave you speechless
when they reach the bitter end

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Spider In My Bed (Revison)

i found a spider
in my bed
and stood afraid
full of dread
since i was tired
dressed for bed
i dropped a bean bag
on his head
and hoped for sleeps sake
he'd be dead

the spider in my bed
though a bit crippled
by the blow
moved in my direction
albeit the crawl was slow
but it didn't
stand a chance
with all my dogs
fighting for the prize
resulting in it's demise

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Stay Green

i want to stay green
never believing
i have reached
perfection in my poetry
staying as enthusiactic
about my work
as aspiring poets
always seem to be
yes, i really do
have a desire
to always remain green

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Strength

i do not know my strength
nor see myself as other people do
i can not be all things
to others or please all for
the sake of keeping peace

death will come swiftly
when everyone wants a piece of me
and there is not enough
of me to go around
my strength slowly depletes

i turn a deaf ear to the men
whose own ears ignored my pleas
forgiving them a given
though forgetting so difficult
i release those that built this prison

i have never known my strength
to endure the unspeakable
giving life my all to
those who would just as soon
see me fall from lack of breath

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Summers In Paris

each summer i go to paris to write
and each trip i make you greet me
as though you haven't seen me in ages
then you tell me i get more beautiful
with each passing year
but i'm just getting older
and it's really men not women that
get better looking with age

i pose for you by day watching your brush
as it whisks over canvas
nights are spent in quaint restaurants
where we eat only the finest foods
chasing it down with the best of the wines

later in the night i try to write
but you won't let me
you're too busy teasing and tickling me
it's impossible to concentrate
you never cease tempting me into your bed
you tell me i will be famous
once your masterpiece is complete
then when i come to paris
everyone i pass by in the city will know me

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Surviving Life

i will speak
and speak out
speak out loud
if need be
trying to reach you
attempting to
get through to you

don't let the liars
cheaters and despisers
bring you down
to their level
tell you how to feel
they are the losers
the total opposite
of you

your love
and compassion
makes you rise high
above the rest
afterall, we
are survivors
you and i knowing
full well
our faith will
see us through

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

sweet freedom

i could write volumes
on all i've seen of
desolation and despair
but for what good purpose

no, i can not spread doom
for the world is full
of such loneliness and gloom
when compassion should rule

my lengthy prayers go up above
for peace for one and all
my fellowmen, choose freedom
ah, sweet freedoms steadfast call

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Sweetest Love

i love you
not for a moment
not for just today
but forever
and in all ways
my sweetest love
you bring joy
to my heart
all of my love
to you i impart
struck as i am
by cupid's dart

oh, sweetest love
cleansed with tears
i will never know
what it is like
to be a part
of your life
but i'll be brave
and take things
in stride for
in my heart
the sweetest love
does abide

By Faith Mairee

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Tales About Depression

i could tell you tales about depression
the way it grabs ahold of you and will not let you go
the living hell that one goes through
when they are feeling oh so blue
i can also tell something that i've done to chase away these blues

i sat down one day and made a feel good list
of all the things i like to do that
give me pleasure
so when i start to feel depresions onset
i pull out my list and pick out something fun i can do

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Tell It To Me Gently

i love life-
and yet i couldn't live
in a world without love

and you-
i will love you always
for you are more precious
to me than life itself

loving you comes easily
and leaving you
i m p o s s i b l e

yet should you ever fall out
of love with me please tell me-
but tell it to me gently

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Tempting Fate

thou shalt not tempt fate
you say holier than thou
as though it were
the eleventh commandment
as though you have never
done anything daring in life

no, tempting fate is not
only for the gods or the fool-hardy
now is all we have anyway
let's take the risk and
fall in love if you will
oh, to feel cupid's dart smart
right in the middle of my heart

what could be more exhilirating
than the feeling of falling,
falling, falling so deeply in love
but no, all you want to talk about
is the wretched consequences
of tempting fate

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

That Kiss

sleep caresses me
softly, slowly
cradling my unconscious

i fight it
but delight in it-
the memory of your face

my lips taste
of your sweet love
and the warmth of your breath

sleep comes over me
the kiss still warm-
still heavy on my lips

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Cattle Egret

he struts across
the plaza parking lot
like he was mr. universe
proud as hell to
be the cattle egret
that he is

his appearance is
flawless except for
the perpetual grease spots
on his back from slipping
under parked cars looking
for bugs and lizards to eat

this is his fourth winter here
and i feel compelled to
name him something
charlie seems to suit him
though he won't to this day
answer to anything he's called

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Day The Clock Stopped

three days of
intermittent sleep
depressed, restless
losing her grip on reality
she shivers as
she moves into
a fetal position

she glances at the
clock on the wall
in her hospital room
the hands motionless
only a prayer
could save her now

she slips one hand
underneath her pillow
clutching her rosary
and the hands on
the clock move

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Gold Monkey

'What is your bid
for the gold monkey, '
calls out the auctioneer.
'One hundred dollars! '
the old woman cries
from the back row
wildly waving a bill.
'Nonsense, this statue
is real gold, ' he replies.
'And this is real money
you turd', she says
having the last word.

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Green Demon

lately i've been seeing
the green demon
when i least expect it
he's reflected
in my rearview mirror

i'm sure he's aware
of my secret stares
still he give no indication
once the foolish games begun

his helmet hides his hair color
his jacket his physique
but i swear
i know that profile
though my memory grows weak

lately i've been meeting
with the green demon
his honda three-fifty screaming
in a race that's never won

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Indifferent

The Indifferent
do not count me among
the indifferent for
i have too much
compassion for mankind
to turn a deaf ear to
the sick, lost or those
subjected to injustice

i am driven by a need
for peace not for
myself alone
but all who inhabit
the world and if
indifference is tantamount
to lifelessness
do not count me
among the living dead

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Justice Parlor

if God had no mercy
if friends gave no
thought to forgiveness
if a mother's love
ceased to be unconditional
who among us would
long to enter
the justice parlor
where everyone
got just what
they deserved

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Price Of Perfume

a woman should always wear expensive perfume
even if she has to skip a meal
here and there
the price of perfume may go up but
her waistline will go down

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Rose

flower blowing in the wind
let me touch your velvet skin
thorny stem so tall and thin
pricks the finger like a pin

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Sculptured Man

it is the man with the sculptured look
that intrigues me more than any man
he has that air of confidence that
shows he believes in himself

he is the kind of man i find in my fantasies with all of the romantic trappings
the man that is the epitome of perfection
the kind that sparks the passion in me

i can tell you how to touch a man like him and make his thighs tremble
it is with the light touch when he least expects it that catches him off guard

he can not resist the sudden brush of your thigh against him
the way you catch his eye and hold his gaze then quickly look in the opposite direction

yes, that gentle rub against his tight perfect body will excite him
you will get his attention much faster if you smile all the while your bodies
collide

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Sequel To The Day The Clock Stopped

her eyes are fixated on
the hands of the clock
on the wall
unlike her racing thoughts
time seems to have stopped
a feeling of loneliness
runs through her veins
as she wonders if
she has crossed over
the line to insanity

gripping her rosary
she begs for God's mercy
pleads for her salvation
things move in slow motion
as she realizes
her prayer was answered
she lifts herself up
and slips out of bed
ready now to face the world

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Truth About Nothing

what value
society
places on life
saddens me
when i hear
old people saying
they're afraid
to leave their
houses for fear
of being mugged
and/or beat to death
when innocent children
are molested and
worse yet killed
when people
in high places
are unveiled as liars
nothing seems to
be what matters
in this modern age
the truth is the
value of a thing
is what we place on it
what it really means
honor life and
you will live forever

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

The Witness

she has a new name
a new life
a whole new identity
it is not due
to amnesia
nor was it by choice
it is for
one reason alone-
she saw something
she wasn't
supposed to see
now she flees
to another country
in the hope one day
she will return
to a life of normalcy

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

There Must Be A Poem In Here Somewhere

a kiss in the dark
a long lost love
a cherished pet
grace from above
a favorite song
a dream come true
the gripping pain
from losing you

a lovely sunset
a friendship betrayed
a critical moment
my nerves are frayed
no matter what
life sends my way
in the back of my
mind (amidst the joy or fear)
i'm always thinking there must
be a poem in here somewhere

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

There Will Come A Day

there will come a day
i will cease to
think of you (i pray)
but do not believe
a word of this for
i think you still
care for me and
hold me in
your thoughts

and as i read the book
you gave me with
the love poem marked
especially for me
i wonder how long
you would wait
for me or any woman
for that matter

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

This City

this city is not really a city
it is a port along side the indian river
unincorporated land that i call home
content in living here with my three dogs
except when the river gives off the putrid odor
that it is prone to do from time to time

i built here first now twenty some years or more later i have witnessed first-hand the growth
of the quiet neighborhood that once was the sticks with rabbits hopping across the yard
once a nature lover's paradise but now just a lovely port with its high priced houses
and friendly southern folks

written 11/10/05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Times Have Changed

times have changed-
you have your life
your wife and soon
to be born baby

don't blame me
if i've found happiness
in his arms and love
in his approach-

i need love like
all the rest

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

To Hold You

to hold you in my arms, my dear
to kiss your lips so sweet
to hear your heart beat
next to mine would be pure ecstacy

but while a moment's pleasure
with you would be divine
it could never be worth the pain
we would be sure to find

though sometimes my heart is heavy
i have said goodbye to misery
for our friendship is a precious thing
and a friend you have indeed

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

To Mother With Love

Mother, what is it like to be you
who has given birth to me
on a day your special day
falls on albeit occasionally

You always said I was a good kid
but then like most teens
i went through a rebellious state
still your love never ceased

Mother, what does it mean to you
to know someone here is
thinking sweet thoughts of you
and sending you a hug and kiss

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

To Touch

we touch
but not enough
we fear
being misunderstood

we touch
trembling unsure
we feel being rejected
would be a kind of dying

we survive
the touch and being touched
to touch is to feel
to feel is to be alive

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

To You Who Have Always Been So Proud

to you who have always been so proud
and quick to judge or criticize my every move
i ask what exactly is my crime

do you despise me for nature was
kinder to me than you found her to be
do you envy me my successes
never acknowledging the hard work
that went into earning them

do you wish you had my problems
without knowing all the trouble i have seen
oh i pity you poor soul who in your
self-made misery can only look
upon me with unkind eyes

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Toothpick People

i don't understand how
you could sit across from me
making people out of toothpicks on the table top
as though we weren't in this restaurant where you just picked a fight with me and made me cry
no, i will never understand why

your face devoid of all emotion
your eyes a stony cold
you rearrange your little toothpick people to suit your liking
as you once manipulated me
before the days you had to resort to making scenes in restaurants
just to set me off

i can't help thinking
you see me as one of your little people lifeless and without feelings as though i had a wooden heart
as though you were master of the universe
having, wanting, needing
total control of me

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Truest Love

once i was somebody's wife
but things didn't turn out right
i never thought i was real domesticated
but when it was all over
i was most certainly educated on the
evil ways a man can be
i still believe in love
though the scars he left went deep

my life is changed but
my truest love is still writing poetry
so when someone says
something i wrote has made them smile
it touches my heart very deeply
perhaps i have helped
them even in a small way to go on

writing is part of
my soul's work and i will write until
the day that i take my last breath
i write not for my
ego's sake but for a much higher purpose
because my greatest wish
is that i might leave the world
a better place by sharing
a part of my soul's stirrings

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Two Thousand Soldiers

two thousand soldiers have died
while fighting the war in Iraq
and there is nothing anyone
can do to bring our men and women back

oh, how heartbreaking it is
to keep seeing the death toll on the rise
the mothers and the fathers
husbands and wives whose pain intensifies

i can not help but wonder
when it comes down to it is it worth this
the families being torn up
as the names of heroes increase the list

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Visions

a silent glance
no words spoken
your eyes tell all

there are dreams
you speak in them
dreams tell the truth

a far away place
roads yet untravelled
a new life begins

in parting leave
not with a tear
go with a smile

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Voyage Of The Doomed

ship glistening against
a golden sky
they jubilously boarded
the titanic anticipating an
adventurous voyage
never once suspicious
of its doomed destiny

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Walk Softly

if i had children
i would teach them
to be kind to others
to respect their elders
to help others when they are able
and to never gossip
nor listen to it

i would teach them
to love God's animals
and to never, never
be cruel to them
for they ask so little of us
yet they give back so much

i would encourage them to
take care of their souls
to always be true
to themselves
to not be afraid
of making a mistake
and i'd die trying to give them
a love that would make them strong

i would encourage them to
be honest in their dealings with others
to always try to do their best
but to remember not to take
themselves too seriously
to laugh and to have fun
that it's okay to be silly sometimes
so walk softly and
carry a big breadstick

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Wanton Women

wanton women
with wicked ways
want what weary women
wish wouldn't wander
while wed
wondering what webs
weaving wanderers weave
while wooing
wicked wanton women

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

We Do Not Write About

we do not write about
what we do not know
the so-called visionaries
in a frantic world
savoring chances taken
mourning lost opportunities
advancing with unmatched passion
a mere reflection of our double-life

we do not write about
what we do not know
but of the esoteric
world inside our heads
of displaced bullets
or the bothersome sometimes
bull-headed black holes in our souls

we do not write about
what we do not know
but of pain and suffering
or pleasure (possibly pure ecstasy)
and sometimes someone listens
to the stirrings of our souls

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

What A Child Fears

what a child fears becomes
his reality in the dark of night
monsters take flight
they hide in the closet causing such fright

thoughts of the boogieman
run through a child's head
the slightest sound heard could
be him lurking beneath the bed

shadows turn into witches
who cast evil spells
or gangsters who grab him
threatening him with hell

sleepless he awaits daylight
when all will be well
all the creepy monsters gone
along with the witches spells

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

What It Is You Have To Offer

this could be the beginning
of something beautiful
but i musn't plan the future

i will extract no promises
from you and i in turn
can promise you nothing

i can be free enough to
be myself with you but i
can only hope you feel the same

and most of all i expect
nothing of you for it is then and
only then i can enjoy what it is you have to offer

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

What We Choose

i used to think
the sky was gray
but it was really blue
i used to think
i loved someone
but it was really you

i used to think
that life was sad
but now it's not so bad
i used to think
i'm born to lose
it's all in what we choose

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

What's In My Heart

ask anyone-
you be beautiful
through and through
and that's no lie
you're the kind
can drive a girl crazy
with just your eyes

ain't no mistakin'-
you be fine
even finer
in that shade of blue
no need contemplatin'
what's in my heart
the word is love dear one
and you can be sure of this-
it's a given

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Where Does Love Go

where does love go
when the tryst is over
what becomes of
the perceived perfection
the love bestowed
that's met with rejection
does it depart
from the lone lovers heart
no, look inside
where the love still resides
due to no more
than crystalization

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Which One Are You

in this world there
are both givers and takers
which one are you

the same is true
for the winners and losers
which do you choose

i have endured
too many takers who
have abused my giving ways

and as for the losers
i haven't even space
in my head to rent to them

written 11-10-05

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Who Among Us

who among us
has not been wounded
in love
or felt the sting
of its' betrayal
shed countless tears
from the withdrawl
of affection once
received from a
cherished loved one

the pain is real
and a part of
being human
the pain is universal
and proof we are alive
pity the poor soul
who can not
let himself become
vulnerable enough
to be hurt
yes, pity him for
he knows nothing of love

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Whose World Is It, Anyway

in spite of all i've got to do
i doubt that when my day is through
i've done all i set out to do
but whose world is it, anyway

now, seldom do things go my way
in spite of all i do or say
i may not get a break today
but whose world is it, anyway

sometimes, life seems like a snare
so much suffering is everywhere
God gave me life so i could share
a world He made beyond compare

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Why Daddy Misbehaved

I went down to the graveyard
just to see my daddy's grave.
I went down to the graveyard
just to see my daddy's grave.
They say it was the whiskey
made my poor daddy misbehave.

Momma used to hollar,
'Don't you go sneakin' out the house.'
Momma used to hollar,
'Don't you go sneakin' out the house.'
But daddy he was quiet, yes
He was quiet as a mouse.

Momma said, 'He's better dead.
You know he never learned to live,
Momma said, 'He's better dead.
You know he never learned to live,
He was just a low-down daddy
getting good at telling fibs'.

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Why I Love Dogs

dogs are one of
God's greatest creations
because they love you unconditionally
because they guard you when you're home
and protect your house when
you are out and about

they don't care if you
walk around the house with messy hair
they are just happy you're there
they sense it when you're feeling low
and listen to your every word
even though they can't advise
you what to do about your sorrows
their sweet eyes and wagging tails
let you know they are there
and all they want to do is please you

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Wild Fires

Wild fires are raging;
They're burning across the Florida coast.
Wild fires are raging;
They're burning across the Florida coast.
Lawdy, everywhere you look all you can see is smoke.
Men at the fire station
see them workin' hard both night and day.
Men at the fire station
see them workin' hard both nght and day.
Gonna take a miracle to keep them fires at bay.

There's smoke and cinders flying
persistent fires destroying so much of the land. There's smoke and cinders flying
persistent fires destroying so much of the land. Lawd, we're prayin' for some rain to
lend a helping hand.

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Wishing

drinking a beer
and wishing i
was anywhere
but where i am
i'm wondering
if you're wishing
you were anywhere
but where you are

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Woman On Death Row

no one knows
if she was predisposed
to end up
in the pen
for killing men
her final home
to be death row
giving no thought
to opening fire
laughing as
her victims died
dropped like flies
in the dead of night

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Worth A Million Words

the burden of
potential lifted
worth a million words
in and of itself
inspiration spurs
me onward
searching for
the magic in
each chosen word

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Writing In The Nude

i always wake up very early
and sit up in my bed
i reach for my wireless keyboard
and type what's in my head

yes, i love to write my poetry
which i would love to sell
i'm sitting here writing in the nude
but promise you won't tell

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Writings From The 8th West Ward

what separates her from
the other patients is
she is not crazy
depressed and lonely
she knows the sooner
she begins to mingle
with them the sooner
she will be released

she tries to watch t.v.
in the recereation room
filled with zombie-eyed patients
gomer pyle is on the screen
making life seem more absurd
she can't stomach his supidity
and swiftly leaves the room

a man approaches her
telling her she looks
like she needs saving
or at the very least
someone to talk to
reluctently she tells
him of her guilt-ridden past
and she immediately feels
the burden lifted

later, she discovers
the reason he is a patient here
is he thinks he's jesus
she laughs for the
first time in months
then goes to the
beauty parlor on the ward
and has her hair done

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Yesterday's Pain

she stands at the window
cheek pressed to the pane
while the last trace of summer
becomes drenched in the rain

her eyes are set
in a ghastly stare
while the day wears on
but she doesn't care

there is work to be done
which she hasn't begun
and she takes a deep breath
then begins to hum

slowly the evening arrives
and trying hard not to cry
she sighs wishing
that she weren't alive

and she knows that
tomorrow will be the same
for all she can feel
is yesterday's pain

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

You Loved Me Sweetly

driving down the highway
in my new GX-350
i'm listening to
a roy orbison cd
and thinking of
you and how
you love me sweetly

wishing i could
turn back time and
be the person
that i was when
you showered me
with a love so strong
you loved me sweetly

when i passed
you on the road
and you waved to me
our eyes met
but only briefly
as you smiled so tenderly
it made me lonesome
for days gone by when, oh
you loved me sweetly

Faith Elizabeth Brigham

Your Love

your love is like an ocean breeze
so gently blowing across the sea
your endearing love envelopes me
while at the same time it sets me free

in the morning when i awake
i think of you with each breath i take
love is such a wonderful thing
your love has made me believe in fate

your love has touched my soul down deep
in a way i've never known before
and when you hold me in your arms
my heart escapes and embraces yours

Faith Elizabeth Brigham