

## ***The Patient Heart***

Love much, and make your life a work of art.  
In choosing, learn to live by what you chose.  
The better self grows from a patient heart.

Let paintings be Matisse and music Mozart,  
whatever is for you the hidden rose.  
Love much, and make your life a work of art.

And do not be afraid to stand apart;  
once opened there are doors which do not close.  
The better self grows from a patient heart.

When else but now to make a finer start?  
To live at peace in wisdom's sweet repose,  
love much, and make your life a work of art.

A blessing given, a poem gleaned by heart,  
will do more good than many may suppose.  
The better self grows from a patient heart.

Love heals all that the world can diagnose,  
and when that doesn't work, increase the dose.  
Love much. Help make each life a work of art.  
A better self grows from the patient heart.

James Manlow

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*A poem written in support of Dorset County's 'Poetry by Heart' Finals 2015 - a national competition designed to encourage pupils aged 14-18 and at school and college in England to learn and to recite poems by heart. [www.poetrybyheart.org.uk](http://www.poetrybyheart.org.uk)*

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