



## RISE

The climb is the thing  
It starts with an idea, a goal, love,  
something worth it  
The chase of it brings out everything inside  
that matters

Strength from the very center of me  
But desire is harsh with lessons and obstacles  
Fine moments usher in others  
where there is only hurt  
There are infinite ways to be held back  
Challenging my belief in what is possible  
I can make this, it must be close  
I'm inescapably required to push  
higher than I first thought  
And the goal ends  
either elusively or with gusto.

But in the climb, in my rise  
I become something more each time  
Packing on more of that stuff that makes one  
unbreakable  
I always know the next summit may defeat me  
And I will commit to the ascent with resolve  
Because like all things that move with life  
I must go on  
Wiser, more humble, ever gracious,  
always forward.

With the dawn breaking forth each day anew  
I stand ready with worthy aim  
My gaze strong  
My desires again set high towards the sky and stars  
in all their uncertain hope  
And as ever more peaks rise up with demanding  
height  
I too will still rise.

-JC