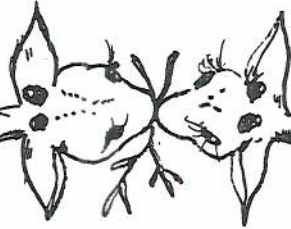


Table of Contents

COME ON THIS JOURNEY	1
UNCHAIN YOUR DOORS	2
FOR ALL TIME	3
ONE WELL-PLACED MARK	4
KINDERGARTENESE	5
PLACE A VERY SPECIAL MARK	6
I BELIEVE IN MIRACLES	7
INSTINCT AND INSIGHT	8
A TEAR OF RECOLLECTION	9
TOUCH THE FUTURE	10
BOOKS ARE MEANT FOR CHILDREN	11
MY LOVE	12
THE CLASSROOM'S HEART	13
THE LOVE AFFAIR OF A LIFETIME	14
CHILDREN ARE THE CENTER	15
WE ALL HAD SOMEONE	16
THE HUMAN ELEMENT	17
BOOK 'EM	18
BOOK MEMORIES	19
A PORCH SWING IN THE CLASSROOM	20
KNEE-DEEP	21
SIMPLE ARITHMETIC	22
TINY STEPS	23
NEW CONVERSATIONS	24
THE MAGIC IS WITHIN	25
THAT IS WHAT WE NEED	26
THE READING DANCE	27
FINGERPRINTS ADORN	28
WE KNOW THEM TOO WELL	29
THE LEARNING NEVER STOPS	30



I BELIEVE IN MIRACLES

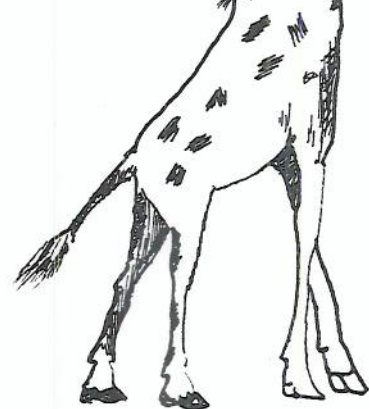
**I believe in miracles
For I see them every day
As I marvel at the power
Of young children as they play,**

**As I watch these little children
Mold within their tiny hands
So many grains
Of moist, brown, simple sand,**

**And in an instant
They create something more,
Something that was not there
A single moment before.**

**Yes, I most certainly do believe in miracles
For I see them every day
As I marvel at the power
Of children at reading play.**

Sigmund A. Boloz



TOUCH THE FUTURE

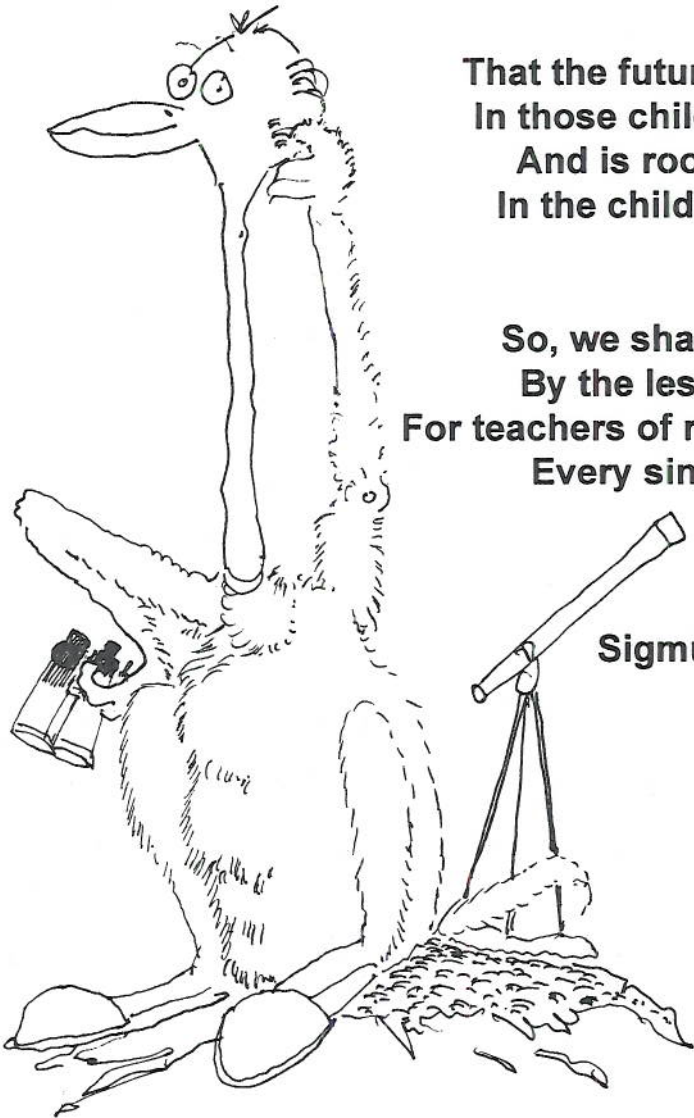
We speak of the future
As some vague, distant thing,
As some remote point in time
That tomorrow will bring.

And we try to imagine
What tomorrow will be,
Without even understanding
That today is the key,

That the future is already planted
In those children who we reach,
And is rooting itself deeply
In the children who we teach.

So, we shape our tomorrows
By the lessons we convey,
For teachers of reading touch the future
Every single reading day.

Sigmund A. Boloz



THE LOVE AFFAIR OF A LIFETIME

To see the beginning,
As the end,
To come full circle
With the message we intend.

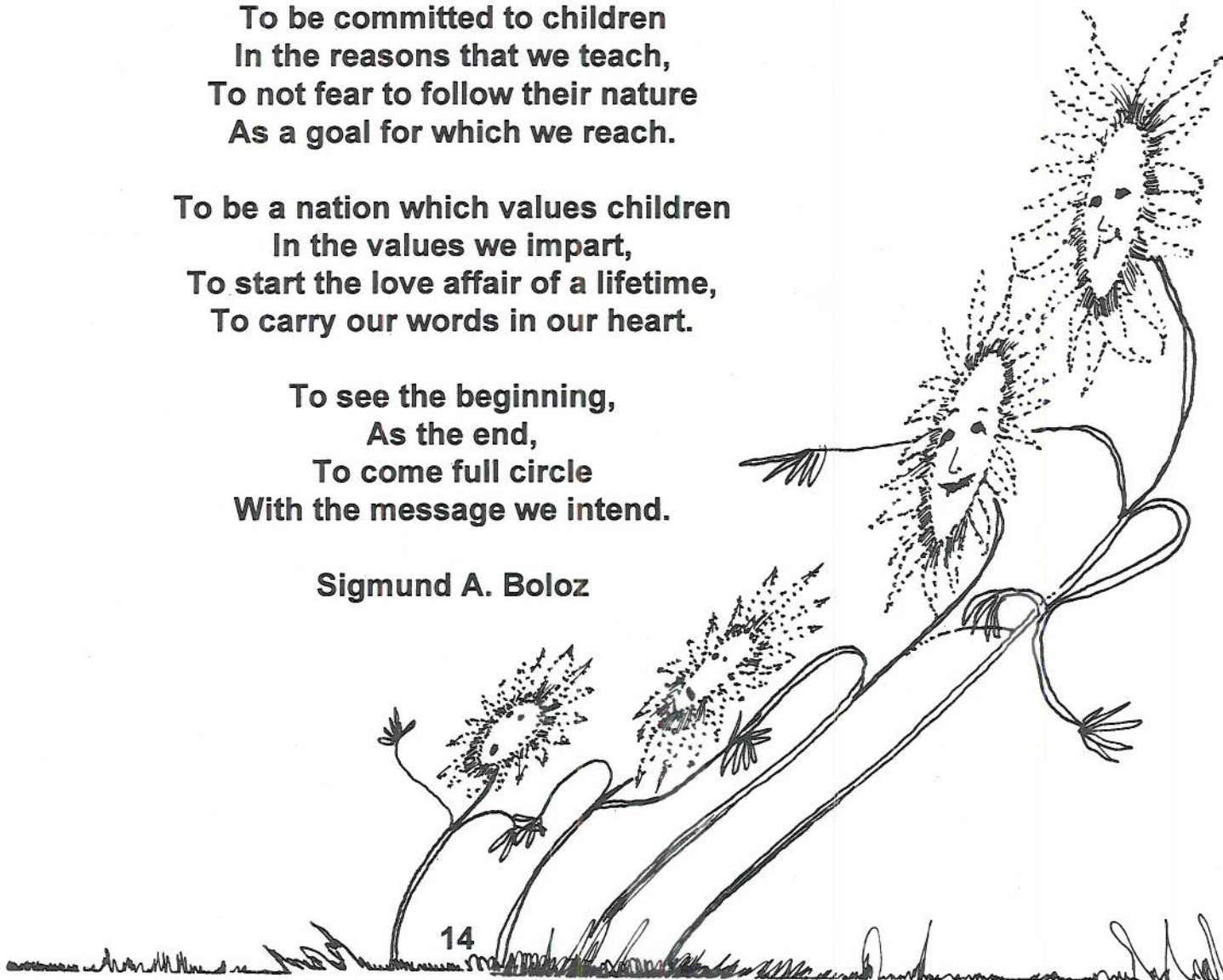
To bring education
As not something compiled,
But to bring it back on center,
Back to the child.

To be committed to children
In the reasons that we teach,
To not fear to follow their nature
As a goal for which we reach.

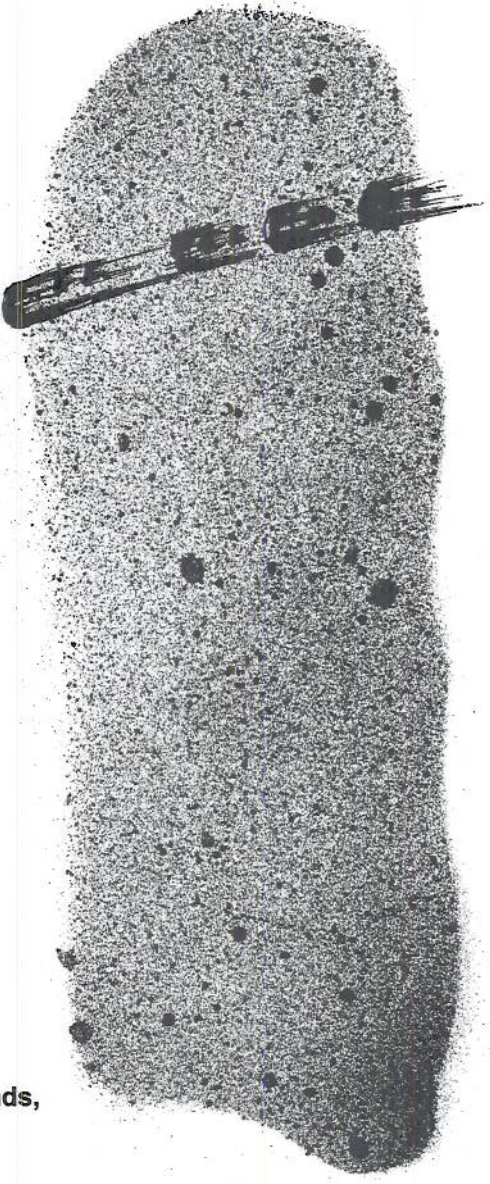
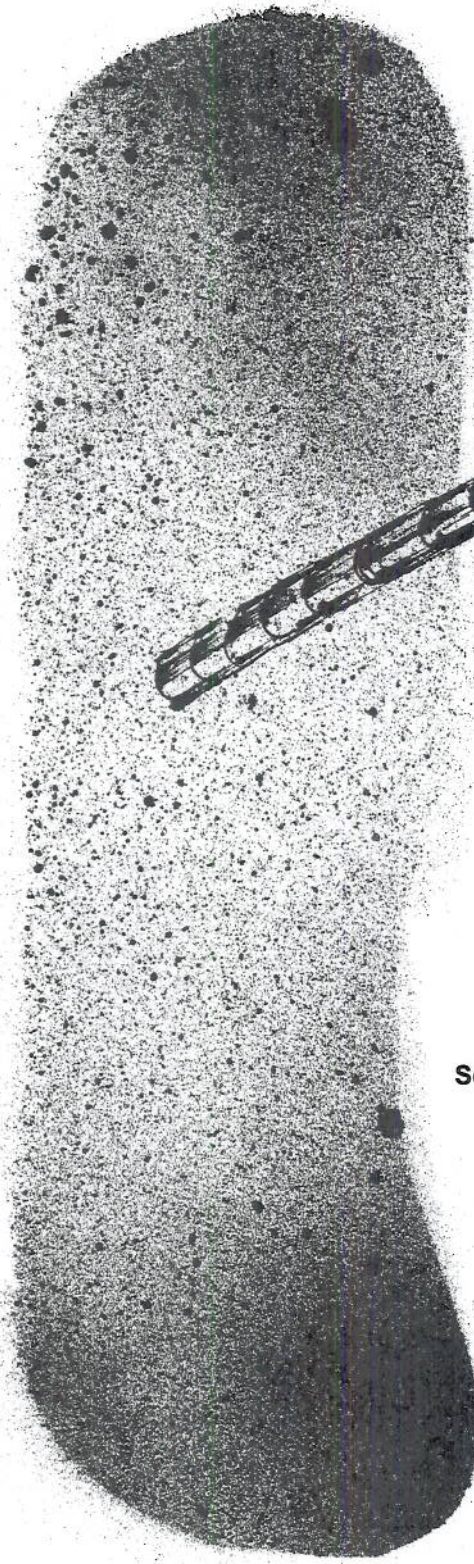
To be a nation which values children
In the values we impart,
To start the love affair of a lifetime,
To carry our words in our heart.

To see the beginning,
As the end,
To come full circle
With the message we intend.

Sigmund A. Boloz



THE MAGIC IS WITHIN



No need for reading magic wands,
For crystal balls or such,
No need for reading magic potions,
Or a wizard's terse touch,
For the reading magic is inherent,
The magic exists,
Resting idly within each child
Like some pessimist,
Until that magic is disturbed
In the simplest of ways,
Until that reading magic is released
By what someone says.
Perhaps a kind word,
Or someone's encouraging touch,
You see, releasing the reading magic
Does not require very much.

But, these things must happen often,
For the magic is within,
And once unleashed
The children must begin
To draw on their own reading magic,
So that children can see
That the power they hold
Comes from neither you nor me.

So, there is no need for reading magic wands,
For crystal balls or such,
No need for reading magic potions,
Or a wizard's terse touch,
For the reading magic is inherent,
The magic exists,
Laying idly within each child
Like some pessimist,
Waiting for a few kind words,
Or someone's encouraging touch.
So, you see, releasing the reading magic
Does not require very much.

Sigmund A. Boloz

