

Kendra Kahl Artist Manifesto

I am an artist.
I dance on lines of becoming.
I whisper to souls for inspiration.
I drink the tears and laughter that stain the
Stories I'm able to tell.

I remind myself that
Creativity is a gift, not a chore.
But even gifts come with
Work. And even gifts encourage
Gratitude and the
Responsibility to
Nurture, Cultivate, and Share.

Story sighs and breaths of compassion
Line my studio and creative thoughts.
My desk and attention sit cluttered with
Writings, scribbles, and outlines of faces.
My filing cabinet of memories
Searches for the proper place to store
Experiences, teachings, and yearnings.

Some claim that the arts are about understanding
Who you are.
But my personal journey through the arts is instead a
Quest for understanding Others.
I am on a search for humanity.

I am an artist.
My art speaks to me and through me.
I harness the beauty and pain that
Weigh my pen as I write,
Sharpen my empathy as I perform,
and Sculpt my generosity as I teach.

My heart sings for those who walk the path beside me, among
Those who claim to be artists
And those whose humanity deems them
Artists all the same.

