



A Clown's Pause for Thought

Every time I don "The Red Nose,"
I ask for wisdom, strength, humility, and freedom,
Enabling me to replace fear, doubt or despair of others
With a moment of compassion and laughter.

Although I may be clumsy, and stumble or fall,
May the dust beneath these big clown shoes
Be transformed into stardust for those with whom I "play."

May I embrace each opportunity with passion
And honor for the Human Spirit.

My snow-white gloves should never fail to hold dear to me
The extended hand of my brothers and sisters,
Always welcoming a joyful connection and
Honoring the diverse world in which we live.

I choose to never outgrow the fulfillment
That comes from the wonderment in a child's eye,
Or the twinkle in the eyes of the aged,
As they are absorbed in unabashed laughter.

I strive for such clearness of vision,
Earnestness of purpose, and sweetness of spirit
That my path be guided to people
In forgotten corners of the world,
Enabling me to touch them through laughter,
And by doing so, promote peace and respect for all.