



SURELY

by

Jeffrey Zable

WHY I LIKE IT: *Poetry Editor HEZEKIAH writes...*

Jeffrey Zable's, 'SURELY' echoes irresistible truths, "Yes, I do think that this life is way more tragic / than blissful, but that is just me." Exposing such interior monologues is just part of what we do, "...the love I feel for my wife who may / or may not ever read this..." ...what if she does? (Spacing is poet's own.)

Yes, I do this life is way more tragic
than blissful, but that is just me. Probably
because I see my own life in such terms,
and believe me I'm not looking for any sympathy
nor am I trying to get you to identify with me.
I'm just stating my perspective for the record
in case I have a heart while sitting here
and when my wife finds me, I'd want her to know
that I loved her very much and that she was really
the one true 'gift' that was bestowed upon me
even though I've been given some lesser gifts
that I'm not going to mention as they are not nearly
as significant as the love I feel for my wife may
or may not ever read this, but surely knows how much
appreciate having her in my life.

THE POET SPEAKS: *I've been writing poetry for a long time in terms of human years. Certainly the main reason why I do it is to explore my feelings and thoughts, which otherwise would be lost...Poetry gives me the opportunity to reflect on who I was, still, and would like to be. In terms of poetic influences, there have been many whose work I've admired, studied, and been influenced by. A few poets who immediately come to mind are Mark Strand, Russell Edson, Charles Bukowski, Pablo Neruda, Octavio Paz, Paul Eluard and Joyce Mansour. Poetry has always been important to me. I believe that great poetry has healing power...the power to make us feel less alone...*

AUTHOR BIO: Jeffrey Zable is a teacher, conga/bongo drummer who plays Afro-Cuban folkloric music, Latin Jazz, and Salsa with groups around the San Francisco Bay Area, and a writer of poetry, flash fiction, and non-fiction. His writing has appeared in hundreds of literary magazines and anthologies; more recently in *Once Upon a Crocodile*, *Raw*, *Fiery Scribe*, *Third Wednesday*, *Uppagus*, and many others.