



Above
our life,
we love
a
steadfast
friend.

Migratory birds are on the move again. Usually in flocks or sometimes in pairs, rarely are fowl alone on their path. Their instincts reveal wisdom: success is most likely achieved in partnership. We are uniquely blessed when we share a friendship that is faithful and reliable.

Steadfast friends gently guide our growth.

The steadfast friend provides security in a world of change. We have little option in life but to adapt to ever-evolving circumstances and situations. The steadfast friend provides a shelter of familiarity to preserve our agility. In our friend's care, we recharge our spirits for future growth. Knowing who we have been, our friend helps us remain true to ourselves while also inviting us to transform into our new selves.

A steadfast friend helps us experiment with possibilities. As we try on different identities, diverse interests, and new ways of imagining our future, a faithful friend engages and encourages. They can be involved when we need their aid, or hold watchful distance when we need to explore on our own. Close enough to honor our tolerance for risk, yet separate enough not to be threatened by our growth, a loyal friend is a perfect companion in life's laboratory.

Never-failing friends remind us of our own ability to be steadfast. Devoted friends are mirrors to our own steadiness. They receive our fidelity, even as they offer their own, and in doing so expand our shared capacity for commitment. They teach us how to support them; they guide us in learning how best to honor their growth. They allow us to be their ally as they pursue their aspirations.

They grant us the greatest of generosity – spacious love.

Who is one of my steadfast friends? How have they empowered my personal unfolding?

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(1564-1593)
Playwright