

Disappear

A change in the weather, or a movement in the sun,
Particles of energy may render you undone
This universe that we live in, this life that we see,
Robust in so many ways, still fragile just like me

Like a star presiding royally, bestowing of its grace,
Becomes a supernova, violent death in outer space
I watch all this in wonder, and ponder on the proof,
That the greatest stars of all will die and that's the honest truth

***Sometimes I fall,
sometimes I can stand,
I may own it all
then I disappear
from view***

There's no moral to this story, just the whisper of the breeze
As it passes through our hearts and moves the leaves upon the trees
And the tree grows up into the sky, stands firm against the wind
But what goes up must come down to disappear again

It's good to cling to life, and its right to aim up high,
But foolish to forget the supernova in the sky
All we have will pass away all we build will die,
Except this moment I now have with you ...

this moment we have now...

That's something you can't buy

***Sometimes I fall
sometimes I can stand,
I may own it all
but then I'll disappear
I'll disappear***

from YOU

Kia kaha Otautahi

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Backstory

I applied for a new job a few years ago, had three interviews and it was down to two candidates. I was one ... the other person got the job

Feeling deflated and disappointed, I went home to find the latest edition of the 'National Geographic' had arrived. Front cover was a supernova. Well, an artist rendition, because if it was a real SN then we would all be thoroughly screwed

In case you don't know, or have forgotten, a supernova is a giant star that is dying. Its death is of such dimensions, such a mega-colossal explosion that releases unimaginable levels of energy. The death of these stars produces carbon, from which all known life forms are made. This is very good news for us because we are about 18% carbon (by mass). And these dying supernova are where carbon, and ultimately us, come from

But that was not my main reflection. My main reflection was this:
even the greatest things in the universe die...



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... even the greatest things in the universe die

Nothing remains, everything will pass away, and eventually even the universe as we know it (though luckily that is a very very long time away)

Yet, it is reassuring in a way. The death of giant stars provides the things we need for life. Without death, without letting go, there is no new life

The coda to my job failure is that I ended up moving to Melbourne for a permanent and far better job. That original job I applied for ceased after two years due to lack of ongoing funding

Death and life, that endless circle ...

Dedicated to my friends and family in Christchurch, who understand what it is to disappear ...

The photo beneath the words was taken just after the Christchurch earthquake of 22nd February 2011. 185 people lost their lives in that quake

Maori Words

Tatai whetu ki te rangi, mau tonu mau tonu
Tatai tangata ki te whenua, ngaro noa, ngaro noa"
(The starry hosts of heaven abide there for ever, immutable;
The hosts of men upon this earth pass away into oblivion)

Kia Kaha Otautahi
Be strong Christchurch

How To Play

Play in DADGAD ...
You will just have to figure it out!