



Awake
and sleep has fled my eyes I leave once more
my bed and go to seek my loyal friends
and wander through our life the odds and ends
that bring to mind the things that reassure
These friends
these random memories mind all our years
our past our lows and highs and in between
the things that we have done and seen and been
We lived those years
Those were our ripening years

Awake
to all that I have learned With you I woke
to find that life is growth that love gives life
the time it must to grow and love, above
all else, forgives - I heard the words love spoke
Love grows
and growing alters loved and lover's spheres
Love's subtle undetected way worked out
its unexpected change I have no doubt
we lived those years
Those were our ripening years

Awake
and night has left me now So with the dawn
I rise to lodge again 'tween memory
and tomorrow Time stalls, and every
simple matter defies me to go on
And yet
sustained by all that we have meant what fears
can overcast? Educated by you I will
go on and grow and be what yet I will
I'll live these years
They'll be my ripening years

– Steve Nolan