

Nightmares Over Dreams

by R J Tomlin

Sometimes I find it strange that I'm no longer scared of nightmares, that I'm far more afraid
of visions, I'm far more afraid of dreams,
I'm too old to let imaginary entities disturb me; ghostly figures in the darkness cannot harm
my self-esteem,

I'm not bothered much at all by what other people think of me, I don't much care to discern
what those around me will believe,
Because other people stand outside me, not within me or inside me – what they think cannot
affect what I am to achieve,

I'm not scared of opposition, criticism or resistance, I'm not scared of coming face to face
against my biggest rivals,
I'm scared I'll never make it, that if there's a chance I'll fail to take it; I'm scared I'll never
get the chance to meet my biggest idols,

Money goes more than it comes, stress is no longer a stranger, but I'm not worried about my
fortune, nor concerned about my health,
Sometimes I'm frightened by my state of mind, my thoughts and threaded feelings – I'm
frightened by the pressures that I put upon myself,

I'm scared I'll never get the chance to make the life I want, that I'll never get the chance to
do those things I wish I could,
That I'll spend my last years looking back with sorrow and regret, knowing if I could go back
and do things differently I would,

Sometimes I see these images, like flashes of the future, daily daydreaming of dreams, and
between me and you,
I'm scared that these invented apparitions just won't happen – I'm scared that all these
dreams I have just won't ever come true,

Sometimes feelings of despair are not a punishment or harm, sometimes it seems they're not
something you try to fight at all,
Sometimes they hold with them a comfort, a sick and twisted solace, knowing when you're at
the bottom, at least there's nowhere else to fall,

You shouldn't measure someone's passion on their status or their stature, you shouldn't
measure some's passion on their habits or regimes,
If you have to, don't do it on how much they're frightened by their nightmares, measure them
on how much that they're frightened by their dreams.