

THINGS FOR WHICH I AM THANKFUL / BLESSINGS IN A FORTUNATE LIFE

In random order:

Faith in something greater	Great people who are here
Our only child	Great souls who have passed on
My beloved wife	Craft honed
Family gathered together	Time alone
True love	The best of America
My humble abode	Leisure time
Traveling mercies	Pauses in the action
Endless curiosity	Succinct explanations
Simple sustenance	Democracy in action
Iced tea	The beauty of the world
Health letting me move and experience	Technology as a tool
Art that moves you	Cool weather
Art that amazes	Television
No natural catastrophes	Real smiles
Noble work waiting every day	Small favors
Dreaming and living in another language	Holiday traditions
New tricks	Sweetness
Funny people	Pop culture ebb and flow
People who care	Others' labor
Absurdities from every which way	Empty restaurants
Out there ideas	Empty theatres
Pleasant surprises	Old hymns
Good hearts	Sincerity
Passion	Walking the walk
Heroes in every context	The old masters (starting with my parents)
My dog (when not aggravating)	Novel experiences
Poetry – the power and beauty of language	A smooth ride
A poignant story written or told	Public radio
Films that make you go to another place	Quiet moments
Films in the here and now	Loud music
Music you can't forget	The moon and stars
Mysteries to ponder	Wind in the trees
Good people doing acts of kindness	History (but not getting stuck there)
Lessons in life	Certain challenges
Kids of all ages	Hope springing eternal
Brainstorms	Seasons coming and going
Anecdotes of people up in years	Maps from anywhere
Memories of where we've been	Energy to get up and go on
A world full of marvels	Resilience

Laughing so as not to cry	Success no matter how small
Friendly advice	Clean cool Water
Pioneers blazing a trail	Victories, even small ones
Those who serve and protect us	Tender moments
Angels	Happy moments
Songs of birds	Peace
Rest and relaxation	Crises extinguished
Power and grace in music	Inspiring oratory
Appreciation	End of a storm or quaking
Keeping it simple and true	Beauty in all its forms
Sunrise, sunset	Trying something that works somehow
Honesty	Looking on the bright side
People of courage who stand up for what is right	Dreams

Original list – October 2012. Revised 2017