

Needs vs. Wants

Do I need
all that I want?

Needs are basic;
wants can be superfluous.

Needs are objective
and common to all;
wants are subjective
and restricted to me.

When I want
more than I need,
I must be circumspect;
if I need
more than I want,
I should be prudent.

Needs dictate to me:
that is understandable;
wants control me:
this is reprehensible.

An artificial need
begets an unnecessary want;
an unnecessary want
is what I really don't need!

Anxiety over my wants
makes me selfish;
concern with your needs
leads to compassion.

Notice the harmony
of human mutuality:
we need to be wanted
and we want to be needed.

Hear the challenge
to human society:
in satisfying our wants
are we depriving others
of their needs?

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