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Stan Sweeney

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SUMMER NIGHTS

by *Stan Sweeney*

Cool summer nights are best for remembering
When our thoughts drift back to bygone times
of simpler things and forgotten laughter.
The sweet, moist air dampens the anxiety
of a busy day and higher priorities.
Whispered from the past are the carefree hours
of youth long abandoned,
endless summer days,
and star-filled skies.

Feel the grass, wet from an early dew—
The impressions of your footsteps fading
even as you rest and you remember.
The soft breeze caresses your soul
to ease the burden of your worried mind.
It stirs the restless reflections
of a hurried first kiss,
a missed interlude,
and lost moments.

The night will pass as all time does,
never pausing for those who reminisce,
never slowing though we may plead.
Another day dawns and the eternal sun
reminds us that while we linger and weigh our fate,
life goes on.
In the day we create the past,
live the present, and plan the future.
But summer nights are best
for remembering. ■



illustration by *Brad Snow*

STAN SWEENEY of Hydro is a nurse by vocation and a poet by avocation.