

A Prayer For My Children

(May You Smile)

By Joshua I Kaplan, 2012

may the path you choose to walk forgive your feet
may your strengths be recognized and your weaknesses, discreet
may you always find a kindly heart to hold
may the vibrance of your spirit shutter out the cold

and as you raise your captain's sail
may your charts and hearts and compass never fail
to navigate the narrows, shoals and squalls
and guide you safely to your port of call

ever may you ease your way
through bayou, bog, and bay
life's stations and turnstiles

may your skies be high and fair
and the current ease you there
most of all may you smile

May the few and true you trust be at your back
may you always have a surplus to offer what others lack
may you always have the dime and time to spare
when a beggar needs a bitter taste, and a child needs you there

and as you set your sights to north
may the stars abide and guide along your course
and steps fall on ground true and sure
and take you tirelessly to your door

ever may you find your way
and be you not led astray
by arrogance, greed or guile

may your eyes forever see
beauty in humanity
and most of all may you smile

i want to see you healthy
and i want to see you dance
i want to hear you humming softly
songs of new romance

i want to see you triumph
and weather every trial
but mostly my loves

i want to see you smile

May you always have compassion as your guide

when a wearied soul comes calling, and needs you by their side
may you always find the spark to light the flame
in children's minds and left behinds; kindling in the rain

and as you move on, mi amor
know there's 2 candles at my door
one for each of you, my own
wherever i am you can always call your home

ever may you shine alight
illuminate, and brave and bright
your fields and yields fertile

may you always have a choice
with words speak louder than your voice
and most of all
may you smile 😊

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