

***Bridges merges texts by Emily Dickenson, excerpts from  
Bridge over Troubled Waters by Paul Simon,  
with original texts by Richard Vella***

**Songs are bridges**

Some songs  
sing we aren't alone

songs of care and being strong  
when we're weary

Songs are bridges without piers  
reminding us we are one

but alas they can be forgotten

Songs embrace time  
they remind and tell us to reach out  
when we feel alone

In troubled times  
Songs remind us  
We are free.  
Equal.  
Safety is a right.  
No slavery, no torture.

Ev'rybody's free  
Ev'rybody's equal  
Freedom from slavery

So many songs  
So much grief  
Bridges can be made with songs  
Let us have faith in song

So many songs  
Lest we forget  
Songs are bridges  
When we're weary

(Richard Vella)

**Faith is the Pierless Bridge**

Faith is the Pierless Bridge  
Supporting what We see  
Unto the Scene that We do not  
Too slender for the eye

It bears the Soul as bold  
As it were rocked in Steel  
With Arms of Steel at either side  
It joins behind the Veil

To what, could We presume  
The Bridge would cease to be  
To Our far, vacillating Feet  
A first Necessity.

(Emily Dickinson)

**Bridge over troubled waters  
(abridged)**

When you're weary  
Feeling small  
When tears are in your eyes  
I will dry them all  
I'm on your side  
Oh, when times get rough  
And friends just can't be found  
Like a bridge over troubled water  
I will lay me down...

Sail on, silver girl  
Sail on by  
Your time has come to shine  
All your dreams are on their way  
See how they shine  
Oh, if you need a friend  
I'm sailing right behind  
Like a bridge over troubled water  
I will lay me down...

When you're down and out  
When you're on the street ...  
When darkness comes ...

I'll take your part ...

(Paul Simon)