

## *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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