

# Poems about EFFORT

## **Dare to Be**

By Steve Maraboli

When a new day begins, dare to smile gratefully.  
When there is darkness, dare to be the first to shine a light.  
When there is injustice, dare to be the first to condemn it.  
When something seems difficult, dare to do it anyway.  
When life seems to beat you down, dare to fight back.  
When there seems to be no hope, dare to find some.  
When you're feeling tired, dare to keep going.  
When times are tough, dare to be tougher.  
When love hurts you, dare to love again.  
When someone is hurting, dare to help them heal.  
When another is lost, dare to help them find the way.  
When a friend falls, dare to be the first to extend a hand.  
When you cross paths with another, dare to make them smile.  
When you feel great, dare to help someone else feel great too.  
When the day has ended, dare to feel as you've done your best.  
Dare to be the best you can –  
At all times, Dare to be!"

## **Great Men**

By Ralph Waldo Emerson

Not gold, but only man can make  
A people great and strong;  
Men who, for truth and honor's sake  
Stand fast and suffer long.

Brave men who work while others sleep  
Who dare while others fly—  
They build a nation's pillars deep  
And lift them to the sky.

## **Once Begun**

By Author Unknown

If a task is once begun,  
Never leave it till it's done.  
Be the labor great or small,  
Do it well or not at all.

## **Results and Roses**

By Edgar Guest

The man who wants a garden fair,  
Or small or very big,  
With flowers growing here and there,  
Must bend his back and dig.

The things are might few on earth  
That wishes can attain.  
Whate-er we want of any worth  
We've got to work to gain.

In matters not what goal you seek  
Its secret here reposes:  
You've got to dig from week to week  
To get Results or Roses.

## **Work Thou for Pleasure**

By Kenyon Cox

Work thou for pleasure; paint or sing or  
carve  
The thing thou loves, though the body  
starve.  
Who works for glory misses off the goal;  
Who works for money coins his very soul.  
Work for work's sake then, and it well  
may be  
That these things shall be added unto  
thee.