

**PUT AND TAKE**  
*By Everett M. Christensen*

There's something I wonder,  
And think of a lot;  
Why some are so happy  
And others are not.

I've known lots of both kinds,  
So, surely, have you;  
Maybe the difference  
Is in the things that they do.

The sad are complainers,  
Of that there's no doubt;  
They measure each thing  
By what they'll get out.

Of them there is one thing  
You surely can bet;  
Their only concern  
Is what they will get.

As each day passes  
They think and they say,  
"What's in it for me?"  
"What will I get today?"

"What good things will happen?"  
"What more will I be?"  
"What have I received?"  
"What have you done for me?"

But it just doesn't work,  
For try as they might;  
The things that they seek,  
Are just out of sight.

And then there are those  
Who seem less concerned,  
About their own lot  
Than the good deeds they've turned

The word "contribution,"  
Is key to this kind.  
For each of their days  
With kindness is lined.

They always seem "up."  
They never are "down."  
They have voices of cheer,  
There's no place for a frown.

The people who know them  
Feel much better, too.  
It's because of their way  
And the things that they do.

These people don't worry  
About what they'll receive;  
They're much more concerned  
About what they will leave.

And yet it's a sure thing,  
A perfect-safe bet.  
They cannot give out  
As much as they get.

These are the happiest  
People you'll see;  
As happy as  
You and I want to be.

So if you'd be happy  
Then make no mistake:  
It's far more important  
To **PUT** than to **TAKE**.