

THE DILEMMA

The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation.
What is called resignation is confirmed desperation.
From the desperate city you go into the desperate country
and have to console yourself with the bravery of minks and muskrats.
A stereotyped but unconscious despair is
concealed even under what are called the games and
amusements of mankind. To be awake is to be alive.
I never yet met a man who is quite awake.

Henry David Thoreau

THE SOLUTION

If you advance confidently in the direction of your dreams,
and endeavor to live the life you have imagined,
you will meet with the success unexpected in common hours.
You will pass an invisible boundary...
If you have built castles in the air,
your work need not be lost; that is where they should be.
Now put the foundation under them.

Henry David Thoreau