

Sonnet Scroll

All Those Books **By David Landon**

A little girl, the daughter of a friend,
once asked, "Why do you have so many books?"
"I like to read," I said, but in my head
was thinking, "Sometimes I wonder why myself."
"Have you read all of them?" she asked. "Not yet.
I will someday." "You might not live that long."
"You mean I'm getting old?" "You're pretty old."
"I might not read them all, but that's okay.
And when I take a nap, there on my couch,
they whisper to me." "That's sort of scary. What
do your books say?" "They tell me how to live."
"You don't know how to live? That's kind of dumb
for someone old as you. Who will you give
your books to when you're dead? Can I have some?"