

Title: The Progress You See

The song is influenced by an article by Veli Rod Keller

(Verse 1)

I sat in a chair in a quiet room
While the weight of the work felt like shadows and gloom
I was sitting with President, knee-to-knee
Feeling the failure of what I could be

The language was heavy, the Finnish so hard
I felt like a traveler, broken and scarred
I didn't think progress would ever arrive
I was just trying to keep the spirit alive.

(Chorus)

But he looked in my eyes with a smile so kind
To heal all the doubt that was clouded in my mind
He said, "Veli, if only you could truly see
The growth that is blooming, the man you will be
Your family, your Father in Heaven, and I—
We see the progress while the days go by."

(Verse 2)

That warm encouragement, simple and true
Strengthened my soul and helped me pull through
It wasn't a lecture or a grand design
Just a moment of love that was purely divine

The perspective I held was forever changed
The way that I saw myself rearranged
The struggle was real, but the promise was more
Than any closed heart or a silent door.

(Bridge)

Now the years have all passed, and I'm older today
But the words of that interview never fade away
When I see my children or the grandkids I love
Struggling with burdens or a push and a shove
When they can't see the light or the path they have trod
I remember the man who spoke for my God.

(Outro) I share the same love that he gave to me
Helping them see what they can truly be
Thank you, President, for the eyes that could see
The progress in them, and the progress in me.

Veli . . . The progress is there.