Job negotiation

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There are many who will find this poem
Difficult to understand.
And many who, thank God,
Will not.

TITLE

Once upon a time, my mother gave me a name.
It memorializes my mother's father and my father's aunt.
If I said that was enough, that would be close to the truth
But not quite.
Call me what you hope I will become
And I will make it so.
Call me what you dream I will create
And I will make you proud.

SPACE

Space is important because the people it holds must feel they are
Close enough to yet far enough from one another
To breathe in the same air and breathe it out
Differently.
Whatever color and wood the drapes and the furniture have always been
Is fine with me.

TIME

I have promised myself I will take some time off to relax
When I die.
Until then, only challenge and achievement are worth the time
And only things that build legacy and raise more questions than answers
Are worthy of the labels "Challenge" and "Achievement."

STAFF

Only people who are comfortable with my door always being open
But not with the way things are in the here and now
Should work for me.
And they should want to be something better than I
For having made my acquaintance.

SALARY

Just pay me so I can give enough away
To feel good about who I am
And about what has happened only because I have lived.

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