Spring is an Angel, A Poem and Interview
Mama Linda’s Chapbook
The Peale, Baltimore
Recorded in April 2021

Speaker 1 (00:03):
(Singing poem Spring is an Angel)

Speaker 1 (00:04):
Spring, spring, spring is coming. Spring has come. Spring is an angel. Spring is an angel with butterfly wings. Spedfully she invites meadowlarks to sing. She invites meadowlarks to sing as she accompanies them on her harp strings.

Speaker 1 (00:30):
Spring is here and she's telling all the birds to sing, to sing your beautiful songs, singing your songs. Oh, sing out robins, sing out meadowlarks. Sing your songs, and I will accompany you on my harp strings. Listen to my harp strings. Fly your wings. Over the den of human traffic and harsh chords from other manmade racket.

Speaker 1 (01:05):
All this noise that mankind is making. All this human traffic. All this racket. Spring angel calls above that. She calls above all that noise. She calls every seedling and every flower and star to come out, come out wherever you are. Come out my children, wherever you are.

Speaker 1 (01:30):
Come out trees, come out seeds, come out blooming leaves. Come out blossoms, come out blooms, come out cherry blossoms. Come out dogwood trees. Come out, come out wherever you are. Come out, come out wherever you are. Come out my children. Come out my children, don't be afraid because spring is here. Spring is near.

Speaker 1 (01:54):
You have no fear. Spring is here, so don't be afraid. Come out, come out and grow. Come out and out. Come out and flow. Come out and glow. Come out my children, come out and blossom. Spring is here. Oh my beautiful birds. Let the songs begin.

Speaker 1 (02:19):
Ooh, let the breeze blow and the songs begin. Let the breeze blow and the blossoms grow. Let the leaves come forth. Let the plants come forth. Let the roses grow. Let the daffodils flow.

Speaker 1 (02:44):
Ooh, let the trees grow taller, taller and taller. Let them grow. Spring is come, spring is come, come out, come out my children, come out, come out wherever you are.

Speaker 1 (03:06):
Ooh, come out, come out wherever you are. Come out, grow, grow. My children grow. Spring is come. Spring is come. Spring is come. Spring is come.
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Speaker 2 (03:45):
Fantastic. I'm so excited. When we get back to the normal society, I'm looking so forward to shooting some video of you doing your poems.

Speaker 1 (03:55):
Oh yes. I would love that.

Speaker 2 (03:57):
It's going to be fantastic. I can already see it.

Speaker 1 (03:59):
Oh, well good. I'm glad you can. Now that gives me, that encourages me. It really does, because I'm telling you I've been through something these past four weeks. I got one week to go this week. So please keep me in prayer, tell mama, call her to pray for me because I've been in lymphedema therapy and it has really taken a toll on me. And so [crosstalk 00:04:22] I'm almost there. That's why spring is come honey. [crosstalk 00:04:27] Spring is here.

Speaker 2 (04:30):
Free at last.

Speaker 1 (04:30):
Free at last. Thank God almighty, I'm free at last.

Speaker 2 (04:34):
Amen.

Speaker 1 (04:34):
Mm-hmm (affirmative) So I enjoy seeing these flowers, bloom. I really do.

Speaker 2 (04:39):
My first question is what inspired you to write this one and tell me the second part will be, what was the intention?

Speaker 1 (04:48):
Well, I was inspired by just observing nature. You know, walking, just walking in the parks and in the woods. What's beautiful about Baltimore is that all around Baltimore, all through Baltimore, there are beautiful parks. There is woods. There is forest. There is a lot of untamed forest, and sometimes when I'm writing or walking, I might see rabbits, I'll see deer on the highway and we have a very small forest near us. Yet, there are deers here. I've seen foxes, and I think I've seen a Coyote because this creature was bigger than a fox and it had a tail similar to a Wolf, but it wasn't quite as big as a Wolf's and it, and it looked at me, he just looked at me and I hear that's the way coyotes are, they just stop and look at you.
Speaker 1 (06:03):

And luckily I was in the car, my daughter was driving and she saw it as well, and this was at nighttime and I've seen groundhogs, and I've seen all kinds of birds, vultures and Hawks, and all kinds of large black crows. They have some of the largest black crows I've ever seen. They're so big, I'm thinking that they're Ravens. But I was heard that the Ravens are in Western, Maryland, and what you're seeing here in the Baltimore area are crows, but they are huge. And my son happened to be looking in our yard and he saw a Hawk swoop down and grab a squirrel, and he took a photo of it. And it was, it was just unbelievable. So in looking at nature, while being here in Baltimore has really been exciting because the change of seasons, and when spring starts to come, you can just see it in the forest.

Speaker 1 (07:24):

You can see it in the grass, and I just love it when spring comes, because the first thing I hear are the birds. I hear the birds start singing around three 3:30 in the morning. That actually wakes me up. I don't even use the clock to wake me up. I listened to the birds and when they start singing, I know it's after 3:30 and sometimes I'll hear this little woodpecker pecking right in this tree, that's right near our home. And then I eventually start seeing the daffodils. The daffodils are the first flowers I see blooming, and then I start seeing the, trees start sprouting. I start seeing the tiny little seeds on trees. And then I start seeing the cherry blossoms and I start smelling them, and the Dogwood trees, and the Cardinals love Dogwood trees.

Speaker 1 (08:32):

If you see a Dogwood tree sooner or later, you're going to see a Cardinal. And then I start seeing the Blue jays and the mockingbirds. And so that lets me know that spring is here. And then the showers begin and things start growing even more. So I thought of just how beautiful spring is, and I love butterflies. And I know soon I will start seeing the butterflies, and my favorite butterfly is the tiger swallowtail. And so I started thinking of spring as being an angel, an angel with butterfly wings. And that came to me first as I was observing nature, and I know that spring has to compete. Like many of the birds have to compete with all this man-made noise. That's why sometimes the birds' sounds are so interesting because birds are singing because they're mating. They're trying to find a mate.

Speaker 1 (09:42):

And it is the male birds that were doing all of this beautiful singing, the sparrows, the robins, the Bluejays. And so I think of spring having to really do what all she can to make everything just grow and blossom because it rains a lot. But the spring really still has to compete because it's so much man-made noise. So much noise pollution, not only is it pollution in terms of the plastics and the paper sprawling all over the streets and in the bushes, and in the trees. If you look at some of the trees, you will see the plastic bags are trapped in the trees. So spring is really telling, come on and grow, come on out, come on out wherever you are, don't be afraid. I will give you aid, come out and grow and bloom because man has gone crazy with all the stuff that he and she has created.

Speaker 1 (10:56):

They have created all of this artificial stuff. So spring is telling the seedlings, the little tiny flowers, the trees, the birds, you got to do it. You got to give it all you got, you can't hold back. You got to grow with
all your might. You got to show mankind that you are just as important because without the trees, we wouldn't be able to breathe. The trees help give us oxygen and we need oxygen. We need the grass. We need mama earth, and that's what spring is saying that I'm here. And soon summer will follow me. So little tiny blooms you have to be ready. You have to soak up as much air, as much water as you can, because I will only be here for a few months. I won't be here long, but now on the west coast, spring is summer all around.

Speaker 1 (12:10):
However, you have to be aware of the fires. You still have to beware of noise pollution. You have to beware of the smog and other things, and so many things are dying out. And so many things are very ill. The rabbits are becoming ill. The Monarch butterfly is vanishing. So spring is really telling all living things, including mankind, to grow, and glow, and slow, and love, and love everything, and respect all of your surroundings because we need one another. We depend on each other. There is no such thing as a self-made man.

Speaker 1 (13:18):
When we came into this world, after the creator allowed us to come into this world, someone had to feed us. Someone had to hold us. Someone had to nurture us. We had to eat the leaves and the roots, we had to drink from the ponds, and the oceans, and the lakes. We had to plant seeds within the earth so more food would grow, so we would have more things to eat. We had to climb the trees to get the bananas. So we had to pick apples and pick the grapes, so we would have nourishment. So there is no such thing as a self-made person. We depend on the earth. We depend on the divine. We depend on one another in order to survive in this world. Ashay.

Speaker 2 (14:38):
Ashay, I love it.

Speaker 1 (14:49):
Thank you.

Speaker 2 (14:52):
Man, it almost sounds like you were reading a book.

Speaker 1 (14:58):
Well, this all came to the top of my head. My eyes were closed. I am lying down in bed because it's easier for me to do things now in bed. And because of my foot, my neuropathy and my foot is neuropathy and arthritis because it hurts, it's very painful. My husband and my children have to help me get in into the bed. I can't get in the bed by myself because of the pain in my foot and, the lymphedema in my legs. But once I'm here, it's like, I call on God. I called on him. I give him all the praise and all the glory, and he just puts these words in my mouth. I'm like a vessel. And I give God the glory. I give him the praise for everything, because he has put a song in me. He has put words in me and to me, poetry and storytelling, because the portraits, what about storytelling?
Speaker 1 (16:06):
To me it is a calling. It is a calling, many years ago when I was a child, I was called to preach, but I was afraid to do it. And so the Lord gave me another chance. He called on me to be a storyteller and to share my words with the world. So that is what I do. That is what I try to do. Let me say it that way. That is what I try to do, and I hope that others will hear my work, read my work, enjoy my work and pass it on to others. That's the whole point of what I do is for it to be passed on to someone else, to be passed on to another human being. Ashay.

Speaker 2 (17:01):
Ashay. No further questions Mama Linda, fantastic job. You said it.

Speaker 1 (17:12):
Thank you so much. [crosstalk 00:17:17]

Speaker 2 (17:17):
I said, sometimes you just got to listen.

Speaker 1 (17:19):
Oh, well, thank you. And you were listening, you a great listener. I appreciate you for your listening. I really do. That's what you do.