

Taking a Spring walk

Mark Hodapp



*A light exists in spring
Not present on the year
At any other period.
When March is scarcely here
A color stands abroad
On solitary hills
That science cannot overtake,
But human nature feels.
It waits upon the lawn;
It shows the furthest tree
Upon the furthest slope we know;
It almost speaks to me.*

Poem lyrics of A Light Exists In Spring by Emily Dickinson.



*March roars in like a lion so fierce,
the wind so cold, it seems to pierce.
The month rolls on and Spring draws near,
and March goes out like a lamb so dear.*



Spring comes: the flowers learn their colored shapes.



*With spring the seasons start anew
The cycle starts again
As each fresh shoot begins to show
And pollen flowers send
The stirrings of this fecund time
The sun higher in the sky
A time of new awakenings
Set free from winter's sigh
And so each spring time happening
With the promise that it brings
Reminds us all of life itself
And we give thanks for many things
The heady days of summer
Ripe autumn's harvesting
For all that will be comes to us
This first full day of spring.*





*Give me the splendid silent sun
with all his beams full-dazzling.
--Walt Whitman*



*This spring as it comes bursts up in bonfires green,
Wild puffing of emerald trees, and flame-filled bushes,
... I am amazed at this spring, this conflagration
Of green fires lit on the soil of the earth.*

Excerpts from *The Enkindled Spring* by D.H. Lawrence (1916)



*A little Madness in the Spring
Is wholesome even for the King.*
-- Emily Dickinson





*Trees are the kindest things I know,
They do no harm, they simply grow
And spread a shade for sleepy cows,
And gather birds among their bows.
They give us fruit in leaves above,
And wood to make our houses of,
And leaves to burn on Halloween
And in the Spring new buds of green.
They are first when day's begun
To tough the beams of morning sun,
They are the last to hold the light
When evening changes into night.
And when a moon floats on the sky
They hum a drowsy lullaby
Of sleepy children long ago...
Trees are the kindest things I know.*





*Spring has sprung
With the abundance
Of blossoming flowers
The feel of affection
With kindling of love
When two souls meet
The spring bring such delight
In the early morning light
With hearts of satisfaction
Spring brings sweet smells*



*Spring, a start of new beginnings.
Creativity awe-inspiring gives a
reason to be living.
Plant life showing life anew, a wonder
to be found.
Spring gives a purpose to our lives, a
touch of Paradise.*





*The sun was warm but the wind was chill.
You know how it is with an April day
When the sun is out and the wind is still,
You're one month on in the middle of May.
But if you so much as dare to speak,
A cloud comes over the sunlit arch,
A wind comes off a frozen peak,
And you're two months back in the middle of March*
Robert Frost



*“Just living is not enough” said
the butterfly,
“one must have sunshine,
freedom and a little flower.”
-- Hans Christian Anderson*





*I will be the gladdest thing
Under the sun!
I will touch a hundred flowers
And not pick one.
~Edna St. Vincent Millay, "Afternoon on a Hill"*



*Flowers... are a proud assertion
that a ray of beauty outvalues all
the utilities of the world.*

~Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1844



*Flower, flower you are true,
You make me happy when I am blue,
You became a flower from a seed,
You did all that just for me*



*First day of spring,not soon enough for me
Sweet scent of freshness,could make one's soul sing
The barren trees shine in many of bloom
As patches of green grass,begin to renew
Our small feathered friends,arrive with sweet song
Building nests for the wee ones,coming along
Bluish-gray skies,spread far and wide
As gentle winds whisper,of on-coming showers
A hint of sunshine,warmed the air
As lingering clouds about,filled the skies above
Spring is sometimes tricky,as most of us know
One day is warm,another one it's cold
Even some snow,can find a way in
But leaves in a hurry,as a warm-up sets in
Spring showers comes along,to many for some
But Mother Nature will change,this season in time
The farmers fields will come alive
And gardens and flowerbeds,will begin to color and thrive
New birth,new life
A welcoming change,these hints of spring.*



A Prayer in Spring

*Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers to-day;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.
Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;
And make us happy in the happy bees,
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.
And make us happy in the darting bird
That suddenly above the bees is heard,
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,
And off a blossom in mid air stands still.
For this is love and nothing else is love,
The which it is reserved for God above
To sanctify to what far ends He will,
But which it only needs that we fulfil.*

-- Robert Frost (1915)



The meditation book entitled Taking a Spring Walk is a brilliant reflection upon God's grandeur that erupts upon the earth each year during the season of spring. The season of winter with its hues of white and gray gives way to the brilliant light of the sun which causes the earth to erupt in a kaleidoscope of color. This yearly phenomenon is magnificently brought to life in this work of Mark Hodapp. The photos with its brilliance and depth of color are matched well with the poems that the author has chosen for each floral photo. This work would be a wonderful gift for anyone. It would be appropriate for any season, weather that season be grief or joy, sadness or hope. No matter what season a person would view this work, it would lift the human spirit. If chosen to give as an Easter gift, the recipient could meditate daily on a different page, inspiring wonder, awe and thanksgiving at the creative hand of God in creation. This book is a must have for any one who enjoys nature, poetry, the season of spring or meditating on the grandeur of God's creation.

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