Lift every voice and sing

Lift every voice and sing Till earth and heaven ring Ring with the harmonies of Liberty Let our rejoicing rise High as the listening skies Let it resound loud as the rolling sea Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us Facing the rising sun of our new day begun Let us march on till victory is won



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Bats

Flying, flying in the sky Bats are neat, I'll tell you why.

Flying foxes are the fastest Bumblebee bats are the smallest

Bats are yellow, red and brown Bats sleep upside down

Some eat bugs and some eat fruit Some look mean and some look cute

Flying, flying in the sky Bats are neat and now you know why



Perhaps the World Ends Here (abridged) by Joy Harjo

The world begins at a kitchen table. No matter what, we must eat to live.

The gifts of earth are brought and prepared, set on the table. So it has been since creation, and it will go on.

We chase chickens or dogs away from it. Babies teethe at the corners. They scrape their knees under it.

It is here that children are given instructions on what it means to be human.

•••

This table has been a house in the rain, an umbrella in the sun.

At this table we sing with joy, with sorrow. We think of suffering and remorse. We give thanks.

Perhaps the world will end at the kitchen table, while we are laughing and crying, eating of the last sweet bite.

With My Own Two Hands By Ben Harper

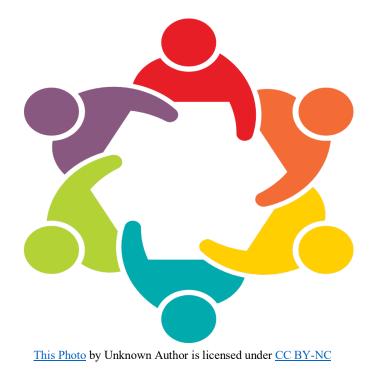
I can change the world, With my own two hands. Make a better place, With my own two hands. Make a kinder place, With my own two hands. I can make peace on earth, With my own two hands.



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About Standing (in Kinship)

BY <u>KIMBERLY BLAESER</u> We all have the same little bones in our foot twenty-six with funny names like *navicular*. Together they build something strong our foot arch a pyramid holding us up. The bones don't get casts when they break. We tape them—one *phalange* to its neighbor for support. (Other things like sorrow work that way, too find healing in the leaning, the closeness.) Our feet have one quarter of all the bones in our body. Maybe we should give more honor to feet and to all those tiny but blessed cogs in the world communities, the forgotten architecture of friendship.





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The Voice

There is a voice inside of you That whispers all day long, "I feel that this is right for me, I know that this is wrong."

No teacher, preacher, parent, friend, Or Wise man can decide What's right for you – just listen to The voice that speaks inside.



Peace is this moment Dorothy Hunt

Peace is this moment without judgment. That is all. This moment in the Heart-space where everything that is, is welcome. Peace is this moment without thinking that it should be some other way, that you should feel some other thing, that your life should unfold according to your plans.

Peace is this moment without judgment, this moment in the Heart-space where everything that is, is welcome.



Whenever you see a tree

BY <u>PADMA VENKATRAMAN</u>

Think how many long years this tree waited as a seed for an animal or bird or wind or rain to maybe carry it to maybe the right spot where again it waited months for seasons to change until time and temperature were fine enough to coax it to swell and burst its hard shell so it could send slender roots to clutch at grains of soil and let tender shoots reach toward the sun Think how many decades or centuries it thickened and climbed and grew taller and deeper never knowing if it would find enough water or light or when conditions would be right so it could keep on spreading leaves adding blossoms and dancing

> Next time you see a tree

think how much hope it holds

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Earth Day by Jane Yolen

I am the Earth And the Earth is me. Each blade of grass, Each honey tree, Each bit of mud, And stick and stone Is blood and muscle, Skin and bone.

And just as I Need every bit Of me to make My body fit, So Earth needs Grass and stone and tree And things that grow here Naturally.

That's why we Celebrate this day. That's why across The world we say: As long as life, As dear, as free, I am the Earth And the Earth is me.

We Remember Them by Sylvan Kamens and Rabbi Reimer

At the rising sun and at its going down; We remember them. At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter; We remember them.

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring; We remember them.

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer; We remember them.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of the autumn; We remember them.

At the beginning of the year and when it ends; We remember them. As long as we live, they too will live, for they are now a part of us as We remember them.



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