



Kindness is the Blood of God.

Stories and Poems by William Paul 2/25

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"Prayers for Eco"

'My sacred home - the natural world. I experience God most vibrantly in the play of light through cottonwood trees and the raspy call of sandhill cranes, in the smell of living soil and cilantro on my hands. I settle and center when I'm in the wild or my garden; I begin to remember my place within my body, the ecosystem, and God's wildly loving heart. I know my belongingness here.' (<https://spectrummagazine.org/>)

Here four prayers from the planetshifter.com archive:

1. "The Bababerry Trellis Prayer"

Labyrinth Map
Sun & Moon Glow
Trellis Hands
Soulful Sounds
Labor Fruit Share
Our Community Dream

2. "The Sequester" (prayer for permaculture)

shredding
mending your wondrous
folding and unfolding ways

emerging
Nature, drum of change
resilience is resistance

sharing
share the surplus
community: Hero

decaying

dirt is just dirt until we touch it
we are the next harvest on the human farm

dissolving
lumberjacks carving up Nature
green pegs in a black hole

sequestering
bleeding hearts
out of time

birthing
seeds for earthlings
not just the banks

3. "Initiation Prayer for Permaculture"

Great Spirit

How can I practice permaculture each day?
How can I find work in the ethics and principles?

Great Spirit

How can we generate more discussion?
How can we build community?

Great Spirit

How can permaculture play an active role in alt.politics?
How can this force be more spiritual and ease the lies from Father's altar?

Great Spirit

Where is permaculture?

4. "The Compost Pile Prayer"

the eternal pile
soil in meta-cycle
deleted then replenished
piled then spread
soul nutrients cooked - pulled and extended
re-birthing in seeds
consumed by humans and animals
in One Nature Spirit forever

refrain:

Go South: Hands in the dirt
Look East: Face in the rain
Move North: Shovel in the Snow
Run West: Crops in the Sun

we are the soil
we are the seeds
we are the teeth and bones
we are the compost
we are the harvest end and beginning

"The AR Graffiti Wall Gang"

Metamorphose means to change into a different form or type, especially in a way that is abrupt or startling.

'Augmented reality (AR) in the Metaverse involves overlaying visual, auditory, or other sensory information onto the real world to enhance one's experience. Unlike virtual reality, which creates its own cyber environment, augmented reality adds to the existing world as it is.'
(<https://www.investopedia.com/terms/a/augmented-reality.asp>)

The Metaverse is a virtual, three-dimensional space where users interact with each other as avatars, often using virtual reality (VR) or augmented reality (AR) headsets. (META)

###

Cast of characters (avatars) of the Graffiti Wall Gang and their chosen areas of expertise:

Ruby - minerals for electronic vehicle (EV) batteries

Root - protecting forests

SWAT - computer security

Washtub - water conservation

First, a base video of the City Park where the Graffiti Wall Gang is painted is shot, then the four heroes metamorphose to life from the inner-city graffiti wall through AI-generation + AR. The computerized Graffiti Wall Gang is mixed on the fly for the pending presentation at Franklin Tech. The four avatars will present their messages to the students and faculty gathered there. A production van with computers, cameras and AR support staff jacks into the school's main frame and begins to transcribe the images and soundtrack.

Everyone in the auditorium has an AR headset.

###

Ruby is first to speak to the room. His car battery-shaped avatar with big eyes, plus images from the City Park and captions, fills the headsets of the assembled:

"Electric vehicle (EV) batteries contain several minerals, including Lithium, Cobalt, Nickel, Manganese, Graphite, Aluminum, and Iron. The United States imports most of the minerals it needs for EV batteries. However, the country does mine some lithium, cobalt, and nickel, and companies are planning to expand production. Recycling products that contain these minerals can also contribute to domestic production."

"Some concerns about critical minerals include:

Availability: A large percentage of critical minerals come from politically unstable countries.

Environmental impact: Mining requires a lot of land, water, and energy.

Social impact: Mining can be a tough, dirty job that requires a lot of resources."

The evolving master AR recording show continues with Root, a tree-like cartoon with a message about forests:

"Forests provide many benefits, including:

- * Providing a suitable habitat for wildlife to live in.
- * Filtering groundwater and preventing runoff to keep water safe for human consumption.
- * Storing carbon.
- * Protecting communities from the worst impacts of climate change.

The next avatar with his computer virus message is SWAT:

"Once it's on your computer or laptop, malware can steal your data, encrypt it so you can't access it, or even erase it completely. For this reason, it's important that you always use antivirus software, and keep it up to date to protect your data and devices."

Last up on the AR avatar build is Washtub. "Here are some examples of water conservation:

- * Collecting rainwater for later use, such as watering plants.
- * Treating wastewater to create a new water supply for non-potable uses, such as irrigation.

- * Using technologies like drip irrigation and micro-sprinklers to deliver water directly to plant roots.
- * Using shower heads, faucets, and toilets that are designed to use less water.
- * Treating and reusing wastewater for non-potable purposes.

Here are some tips for conserving water at home:

- * Fix leaks.
- * Take shorter showers.
- * Turn off the water when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- * Only run the washing machine and dishwasher when they are full.
- * Use a low-flow shower head and faucet aerators."

The four avatar characters take a bow. Then the headsets go dark. A copy of the finished AR-driven .mov is given to Franklin Tech for their AR Library.

"Dancing with the Avatars"

'Augmented reality (AR) in the Metaverse involves overlaying visual, auditory, or other sensory information onto the real world to enhance one's experience. Unlike virtual reality, which creates its own cyber environment, augmented reality adds to the existing world as it is.' (<https://www.investopedia.com/terms/a/augmented-reality.asp>)

####

Jason is a single player at the Senior Ball this year. Maybe Suzie Marks will also come without a date, too. He notices that the AR computer gear is interfaced with the sound system on the high school gym stage. The DJ is warm. The crowd already has their META WIFI-supported headsets on. Everything is on the fly.

Using their yearbook for base images, student head shots were filmed earlier for avatars created by the AR Producers for each of the 74 graduates. The walls and ceiling are plastered with large colored balloons. An interesting topography for an augmented reality production. The Senior's avatars are kind a like the Ghosts in "Ghostbusters" - cartoon-like.

Jason looks distorted with his tuxedo and headset. Now text comes scrolling across the big screen over the stage:

"Students please dance with each other's avatars." Jason sends brain signals to his headset and selects Jamie Ryan's avatar. His 4-minute dance with her avatar is choreographed by the Producers driven by their computers in the AR truck in the parking lot.

Finally, dance #2: the avatars dance amongst themselves. Free form. Swing. The balloons are distorting the avatar's appearance in the headsets. Seniors can watch the new AR .mov in the computer lab!

"The Alley"

The Alley is the interface where the resilience movement resides.

"Use edges and value the marginal – The interface between things is where the most interesting events take place. These are often the most valuable, diverse, and productive elements in the system." (a permaculture principle)

###

Surveillance cameras are all over the town, but not in the Alley. It is a green zone.

Tonight's clandestine barter (Seed Swap) is out of sight from the camera-greedy corporate eyes of the private agriculture cops. Rocky and Sara seek to save their purity and diversity, and their community. Their unmodified seeds for the swap have come from The Seed Bank in Berkeley, now shut down by government order, and the DIY Center in Petaluma which is still operating like a "hobby shop."

Sara: "Thanks for the meet-up Rock."

Rocky: "No problem. Thanks for the seeds."

The vanilla-colored packets of seeds are exchanged quickly under the soft light of Sara's cell phone. No cops in site. Rocky pulls the hood of his black sweatshirt over his head and shuffles down the Alley. Sara bikes towards her house. The kids, in their Alley, are community Heroes.

###

*New Mythology utilizes a new definition of Joseph Campbell's hero's journey, also known as the monomyth, as a new template for modern myths. The stages involve a community that experiences a journey, is victorious in crisis, receives a reward, and is transformed as the Hero.

Out of Work

The self-worth drain

Work connects Love of Family
with Love of God

Mid-afternoon is the hardest
when the Others are making cash
I'm making my bed

Work is central to our existence
No work - we just exist

Wallowing Nothingness...

Queen of Hearts

your body oil is dripping down my chest
I'm putting up my sails
now I know why you use a snorkel
I'm underwater

I hold you up
Queen of Hearts
in a cosmic poker game
with no hands

crazy Diamond.

Shirley...

eyes like black diamonds
lips like cherries
a smile over the ocean
legs reaching the moon

a desktop view

brain like a bee hive
play over business
heart over mind
a gym rat groove

she's all about celery juice
and dumplings

Memes for Judith

light
integrity

movement

caring
learning

growth

family
stars

garden plot

Volcano

She is a fiery volcano
simmering to lift off

A dozen red roses
thorns armed

surgical hands
red lips
fast feet

Our Golden Sunrise Girl

I dreamed that we were hiking down a mountainside, enjoying a song and feeling the sweat drip down our backs. At the end of the trail, we were naked and enjoyed a hot tub together. We made love in the cabin in front of a warm fire. Dreams prepare us for reality. Do you like this dream?

Compost stars and dust

A zillion miles away
Earth our swirling green bin
Light years at bay.

Compost stars and dust
Our universal flag
One Mother or rust
Zig zag, zig zag

Compost stars and dust
War is no more
Building common ground
A sharing call

bathe

bathe in the light
bathe in the night
bathe in the sound
bathe and be gone

driving somewhere

investment of the heart
pink and blue
house hues
peace flowers true

resilience-powered
self-propelled
she likes to drive somewhere
Sara Gt3 911

e-freedom and me.

I don't know this life called semi-retired. I don't have a plan just too many concerns and too much time in the Sun. My skill set weakens as the AI evolution and new technologies race around me. What do I want, who am I now? Advice, anyone?

I don't want to be retired like some old horse in the back pasture. I want to be busy, useful, and gleeful. My resume is giving my age away now, and employers are biased against me. Am I a bottom feeder now? And what about this service / tourist town? What artistic, sustainable opportunities are ready?

I don't think there are any stock answers, just bottomless questions.

The Fossil

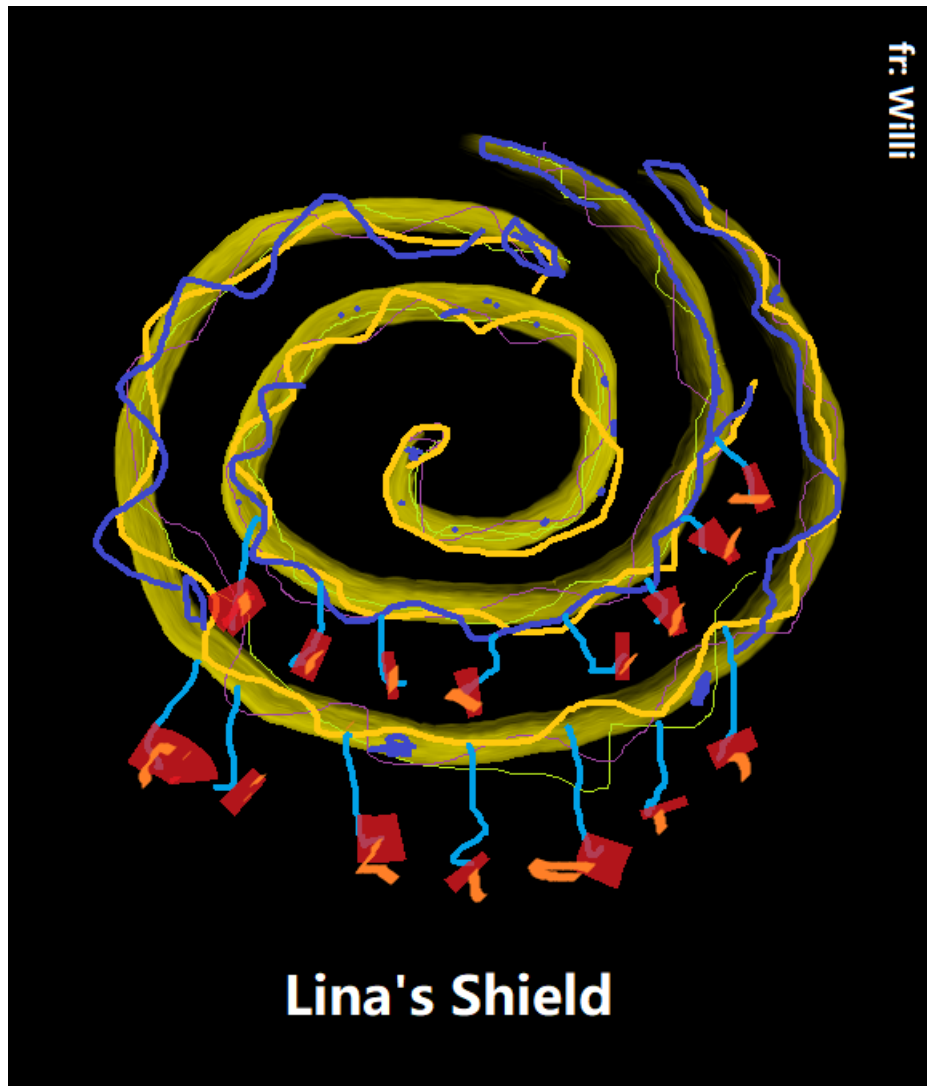
The burn extends across the outer ridge and down into a ghost town. All that is revealed are the footsteps left by the firemen in a cratered Moon-like yellow white ash.

Snow. Falling. A pillaging. Excusing the pale earth. It's a Red Cross day.

The forest, a garden turned black skeleton. Shovels left behind, a path.

No sound. Birds gone. Sun blocked. God's serenade.

An old woman clunks. Wheelchair wheels burned to a fossil.



New Transition Song

Barter!
create resilience
a new, healthy economy

We are local, going global!
in transformation
come together and rebuild our world

human incubators
strategic partners
our post-carbon community

reimagine with
inclusivity and
social justice

collaborate
look for synergies
vision and create!

come together and revision our world
come together and rebuild our world

ritual of weeding

Definition: a rigorous and quiet discipline made up of a series of redundant actions performed by a tool that pulls up unwanted weeds from the soil.

Gear: knee pads, bucket, long metal fork, straw hat, sunscreen, big green city compost bin

Colloquialisms:

Weeding is one of the most hated chores, next to painting your ceiling

Don't throw picked weeds in the compost machine, seeds may come back to bite you

Pull a weed, plant a seed!

Pull one weed daily.

Spirit Capture

Nature is evolution is resilience

It's not just an experience
not just the outdoors

Nature is the oldest living thing we know

we have formed it into coal
landfills and jet fuel

Nature is climate change.

