

Scatacook District Klondike Derby 2005

Scouts Own Service

The Sunset

Then I was standing on the highest mountain of them all, and round about beneath me was the whole hoop of the world. And while I stood there I saw more than I can tell and I understood more than I saw; for I was seeing in a sacred manner the shapes of all things in the spirit, and the shape of all shapes as they must live together like one being.

And I say the sacred hoop of my people was one of the many hoops that made one circle, wide as daylight and as starlight, and in the center grew one mighty flowering tree to shelter all the children of one mother and one father. And I saw that it was holy...

But anywhere is the center of the world.

Black Elk, Holy Man of the Oglala Sioux, 1863-1950

America the Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea!

Campers

(from "Campfires, A Collection of Favorites" compiled by Linda Kish)

Campers are very special people:
They have felt the cool wind of dawn;
They have known the slow march of the stars along the milky way;
They have reached out their hands to new friends;
They have stood tiptoe to the meaning of life, and found it good:
Their eyes have caught the vision of the shining future,
Their hearts have encompassed all the bounds of the earth.
And their minds have listened to God.

Today's Thought

I am but one,
But I am one;
I can't do everything,
But I can do SOMETHING;
What I can do,
I ought to do,
What I ought to do,
God helping me,
I WILL DO.

Present Tense

It was spring, but it was summer I wanted,
The warm days, and the great outdoors.

*It was summer, but it was fall I wanted,
The colorful leaves, and the cool, dry air.*

It was fall, but it was winter I wanted,
The beautiful snow, and the joy of the holiday season.

*It was winter, but it was spring I wanted,
The warmth, and the blossoming of nature.*

I was a child, but it was adulthood I wanted,
The freedom, and the respect.

*I was 20, but it was 30 I wanted,
To be mature, and sophisticated.*

I was middle aged, but it was 20 I wanted,
The youth, and the free spirit.

*I was retired, but it was middle age I wanted,
The presence of mind, without limitations.*

My life was over, but I never got what I wanted.
-- Jason Leham (age 14)

Scout Vespers

Softly falls the light of day,
As our campfire fades away.
Silently, each Scout should ask,
"Have I done my daily task?"

"Have I cared and have I tried,
Can I guiltless sleep tonight?
Have I done and have I dared,
Every thing to be prepared?"