THE UNITY OF ALL LIFE by Evelyn G. Mulford

The carbon atoms that whirl and dance in me came from South Africa, and were the ones which chose to be me instead of a diamond.

My iron atoms lay for aeons in their bed in Minnesota, and the copper dancers within me came from Montana.

The salt in my tears and blood washed upon the shores of earth for billions of years, and prehistoric fish swam in my water.

My atoms were in one of the first flying creatures that dared to overcome the law of gravity. Even now they whisper, "Freedom."

I was part of the fire that consumed sacrifices. My atoms were in the blood of wounded feet at Valley Forge and at Antietam, Gettysburg, in Vietnam, Lebanon and Israel.

My atoms were in the hand that placed the "crown of thorns" on the Rabbi Jesus.

I was part of John's eyes when he saw the vision of Patmos.

I was part of a plank in the Mayflower and in the hearts of John Alden and Priscilla.

I thought of new worlds to conquer in the brain of Alexander, and was part of a heavy sword that slew enemies of the Israelites.

I was in the stone slung by David that killed the giant Philistine. I was part of many weapons that killed in the name of love and peace of God Almighty.

My atoms danced on Shakespeare's pen, and whirled in the blind Milton's eyes.

I was part of the lameness of Lord Byron and the gluttony of Henry the Eighth.

I am the woman-man-child of the universe, the All in All, the One out of many, the many out of One. I have always been and always will be. I am and I know I am, and I will always know I am.

I was part of the filth in the slave galley, and part of the perfume of the sweetest rose.

I am the greenness of living plants; the whiteness of snow; the purpleness of dawn; the blackness of midnight.

I am atoms of generations long ago transformed and countless creations yet to emerge. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the circle which has no end. I am infinity. Sometimes I am part of Andromeda, then the Milky Way, then human. I am dust – star dust, man dust.

I am part of the acorn that became a tree; part of the leaf eaten by the caterpillar, part of the caterpillar, then part of the cocoon – part of the butterfly, part of the nectar sipped by butterfly and bee. I was part of the flower, part of the sunflower seed, part of the rain cloud, part of the water.

The atoms of hydrogen in me make their cycle from raindrop to earth, through human, plant and animal to brook, to river, to ocean to be lovingly drawn up to begin again.

Out of death of my mother came I, part of the salmon roe.

The dinosaur is not dead nor extinct. Part of its mighty strength dances in my primal nature.

I am the dust of the comet which frightened primitive man. I came from far reaches of infinity to become a part of humanness.

I am sperm and ova yet unjoined – a seed and a pearl, a thought and an idea – a vision taking form.

My own grandeur is more than I can contemplate. I am part of all that is or ever will be.

I was in the burning eyes of Blake's tiger and in the vocal chords of Emerson as he rejected the ministry of his church. I was part of the paper at Augsburg on which Luther wrote his 95 theses.

My atoms were part of the color of caveman drawings found in Lascaux, and the lyre of David that fascinated Saul. I was part of the hemlock that poisoned Socrates.

I change from mineral to plant to animal to man. I am dust and water, air, salt, manganese, wood, sulphur, gold, silver, iron. I have been all these things – now these things are me. I am the dance of life – the whirling atoms.

And when I become so saturated with all that I AM and the total consciousness of Oneness, I will vibrate faster and faster and my atoms will whirl at speeds incomprehensible and I will become invisible – but I will still <u>be</u>. I will know that I AM.

Now, here I stand: Should I be humble? I have always existed, yet I bow in awe. Should I be fearful? Why? I am a part of all that is. Should I be grateful? Yes! Yes! Oh, be joyful!

I am the highest expression of God yet. I have survived! Fire? I was part of the fire! Flood? I was part of the flood! Earthquake? I was part of the earth.

I am matter. If you destroy me, I become energy. If you think me, I become! I am thoughts made manifest. I whirl and dance and sing the song of the universe. I am the dance of life. There is no death. Nothing dies. I never die – I change. I am the One verse.

My cells have consciousness; they contemplate me. They know their oneness, and I know my oneness with the One. The unity of all life is one of my basic laws. I shall always be separate, yet always part of the One.

You are part of me and I of you, and there is only one Presence and one Power.

I AM – your joy – your pain – the light and the dark – the Alpha and the Omega. I am the Dance of Life.

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Put your hand over your heart and feel the rhythm of life – every beat of your heart is saying Yes – Yes – Yes!