

***Full to the Brim* by Lynn Hayn**

When we are born there is joy and tears of happiness. Our families and friends share in the celebration of new life. We grow in age and maturity and are nurtured by our families, friends, teachers, and others influential in our lives. And at some point we begin to ponder the end of life. Some will fear death, question what happens afterwards, or even welcome it if age or illness has affected the quality of life. How would our view of death change if we celebrated the end of life with joy and tears as we did in the beginning?

Threshold Choirs sit at the bedside of those transitioning from this life to the next and sing quiet, comforting songs in the last hours. Being in the presence of someone that is transitioning is a gift. Death is a very intimate moment, and to be invited into that sacred space is a privilege and a blessing. I have seen the lines of pain and sadness relax on the face of a traveler, heard breathing eased, watched smiles appear, and been present at the moment that the soul is released from its earthly form. Even nonresponsive travelers can be reached through music, and families are comforted by these last special moments with their loved one. And I see God in those faces.

“And God Said,” words and music by Marilyn Power Scott, 2009, has comforted me many times:

“And God said, I am made whole by your life. Every soul, every soul completes me.”

Jesus Christ is my savior and redeemer. I believe His words that He has prepared a place for me and I am Full to the Brim with hope in the afterlife. When I reach the end of life I hope there will be joy and singing to send me on my way. I want to be full to the brim with joy and happiness as I meet Jesus face to face.

*Artwork by Bill Liger*

