

The Writer's Journey With Jesus ~ Essay Poem

by Sara Kumar

I once heard a philosophy professor say
that Jane Austen wrote on the fringes of poetry.
Is Nonfiction Writing Poetic, or is it Lyrical,
and what is a Fringe?

We'll come back to this in some good time,
but first let us talk about some important elements
of writing, and why we write.

~Writing is about transcendence.

~Writing can be beautiful and sensible.

~Writing is about tempo.

~Writing is lyrical sometimes.

~Writing is about transcendence.

We can say if a poem is beautiful,
then the poem is good also,
and it is a true poem,
and while reading it,
we can sense something true.
God is beyond us and inside of us,
and He reaches out to us, while reading,
in a way that brings peace,
and so it is a sensible activity
to write actually, so lovingly.

I am writing now a Non-Fiction Essay Poem
about the Art of Writing,
and I am happy to sit and write here.

I see images in my mind sometimes.
I see the form of a chair, for example.
I now go to a film, directed by Mel Gibson,
and I see the character of Jesus sitting,

without a chair,
and I understand thought about a chair.

My heart is touched by God's grace,
and I think I can reach something
beyond myself.

I am thinking about sitting, in a chair,
with Martha and May, and about opening
a jar now, with Mary, and I think about sweet friend.
Let's pray about a lovely electric jar opener, sweet friend,
and a comfy chair, and a comfy chair, and dear friend.

The form of a chair is an idea
beyond me that helps me.

This idea exists within my mind,
and so I don't have to pull myself
to find this idea, because I am given this idea,
and I can sit with it, within my mind,

and Jesus smiles
in my imagination.

Writing is sensible and helps me
find my dreams with Jesus.

Jane Austen wrote about women,
who wanted to be married,
and who needed money in life.
Her stories help Jesus bring joy,
and they help me think about beautiful romance.

Jane Austen's "Sense and Sensibility"
was still being adapted by Emma Thompson,
in the year 1995,
and this was a screenplay about prudence
and lovely, patient passion.

People sat down and talked to each other
about matters of household management,
about poetry, and about forgiveness.

They also sat down and waited for something to do.

Forgiveness, can we imagine?

These images and ideas stay with me for awhile,
and some of the ideas were expressed by screenwriters,
who were thinking about how people could move and be.

Writing helps move a person in time, space, or both.

God reaches out into a person's mind also,

even when there is a blackout on screen

for some moments, or an empty place with music.



Although Emma Thompson's work is not Poetry,

this Fictional Screenwriting is Lyrical,

because God points to the chair,

and the chair becomes a symbol.

I think about this symbol of the chair now,
and I think of a film directed by Jason Reitman
about motherhood.



The woman spoke about finding a chair and a husband,
and we see that motherhood can be difficult.

When we read the writing, we see how people
deal with matters of love and difficulty.

Writing is about the tempo of life.

My Non-Fiction writing is journalistic writing
with geometrical shapes and musical phrases.

I look at telegrams, letters, and newspaper clippings,
and I write a story about what was happening
to people in American political history.



Their writing is often Lyrical to me, because they
sing about their dreams.

What also is interesting to me about this is
what I call Non-Fictional Movement.

This is about finding a tempo for the story
that does not excite for the sake of excitement,
but that helps a reader find peace, thanks be to God.

I think about Dramatic Literature in my writing also,
peace,
and I'm becoming playwright actually,
thanks be to Gawd.

In the opening scene of Tony Kushner's
"Homebody Kabul,"
a woman sat down for a long time,
and she read aloud from a travel journal.

Did she want to visit Kabul,
and if she did, did she see angels there?

I think of the image of the chair
with my Poetry also.

When people read my Poetry,
I hope the Holy Spirit comes and dwells
with them, wherever they may be.

There is a house in New York City, in Harlem,
where Langston Hughes lived with his aunt,
and there were no chairs there
when I went with my mom
some years ago.

I think we need to sit down sometimes
and listen to one another read
what we have written.

I'm not called to do a fine arts degree
in writing at this time, but I need to gather
with friends and be well with Jesus.

I would like to dream about a journey
to this house in Harlem
sitting in chairs with Jesus and friends
traffic outside in the Harlem neighborhood
thinking about a firebird singing.

"I want to sew fringes on dresses
and sew them well,"

sings the Firebird.

"And I want to live within beautiful walls
made of stones of pink rock and concrete
and sing about beautiful Town Fringes,

where the air is good,
and the people are so lovely."

