

Connecting New

October, 2017

This month I share poems from East Africa, where I traveled this summer. My experience is that wherever I go there is always something to take with me and something of myself to leave...and God is there. I expect that if you reflected upon a favorite trip you took, you would find this to be true for yourself as well.

Tanzania

A boy pushes a water can cart to the local well,
his cell phone in hand.

I am that boy.

A younger boy wears a dusty torn shirt
and a full moon smile.

I am that boy also.

Grandmother takes my hand
during the welcoming ritual dancing/singing
and we move in rhythm.

I found my soul in Tanzania,
expressed through the warmth and strength of her people.
My prayer is that they recognized something of themselves in me.

Giraffe

Long before you notice her,
she is looking at you - always,
and for her to win a staring contest is effortless - every time.

Taking a drink is an act of vulnerability,
not unlike a woman peeing in the bush.

Oh that I could see half as well as you,
both what is on the horizon and right before my nose.

Beautiful creature, thank you for reminding me
that becoming vulnerable is as necessary for life as water.

Relief

Post massage, before walking from the safari spa to her room,
she was told, "Look left, look right.

Yesterday a leopard was near the path."

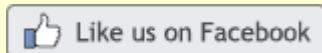
Seems stress relief is always short lived.

Love Birds

East African love birds are cool green,
living an endless romance,
fecund and free,
beautiful to witness, a miracle to experience.
Others wonder how they do it,
but it's in their nature to be considerate
and to fly higher when close together.

May we be ever open and responsive to how God is traveling with us.

Peace and Blessings,
Clarence



Clarence Heller is a spiritual director, poet, and dreamer whose writing and paintings are inspired through prayerful reflection.

Contact: clarence@clarenceheller.com

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