

A New Story Waiting To Be Told
Terry Chapman

we come bearing gifts
like leaves from
the book of our lives
symbols of our longing
remnants of our striving
inspired through hearts
opened by the tumultuous
ocean of time and toil

spools of thread
pallets of paint
feathers found
cloth worn thin
water smoothed stones
and shimmering gems

artifacts from
an old story
that once
seemed true
but now fades
like a mist in
the morning light

holy things
for holy people

holy too is the
mystery of
how the parts
will become
whole and the
naked trusting
of deep wisdom

that the more beautiful
story is already written
on our hearts
waiting be told
yet bears little
resemblance to
that from which
the gifts were borrowed

what takes shape
from the offering
of our gifts
is not a map
nor tool
nor god to
be praised

but an icon
a window
through which
the Ancient Future
comes and meets us
enveloping us
in Her sweet
dark embrace
inviting us to
let go

into a New Story
the living of which
is the gift
of Life for
all people
for all creation
for all
for all
for all

For a New Beginning
by John O'Donohue

*In out-of-the-way places of the heart,
Where your thoughts never think to wander,
This beginning has been quietly forming,
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.*

*For a long time it has watched your desire,
Feeling the emptiness growing inside you,
Noticing how you willed yourself on,
Still unable to leave what you had outgrown.*

*It watched you play with the seduction of safety
And the gray promises that sameness whispered,
Heard the waves of turmoil rise and relent,
Wondered would you always live like this.*

*Then the delight, when your courage kindled,
And out you stepped onto new ground,
Your eyes young again with energy and dream,
A path of plenitude opening before you.*

*Though your destination is not yet clear
You can trust the promise of this opening;
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning
That is at one with your life's desire.*

*Awaken your spirit to adventure;
Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk;
Soon you will be home in a new rhythm,
For your soul senses the world that awaits you.*