



Margaret J. Wheatley

Morning Walk

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Wellfleet Bay

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It is only a morning walk an exploration of identity

A small woodpecker sends me on this exploration.

I can hear the quiet click each time his beak meets tree.

I begin to wonder if I am like him. Holding on for dear life,
hoping to catch each thought as it appears.

Endlessly mindful little bird.

The route I choose is littered with ancient defense systems.

Horseshoe crabs, older than most species, punctuate the path,

Dark brown mounds of protection easily eaten when events turn them over.

On the sand flats, seemingly millions of crabs, (and I am not exaggerating)

only an inch or so big,

scurry in fear to find refuge in the grass.

They are so many although so small

that I can hear their motion above the gentle wind.

A vast army, amassed and marching, the armies of Mordor.

Terrifying creatures who are themselves terrified.

The sun becomes too much for me, and I'm done with these musings.

(I forgot to tell you about the open boats, high on the beach, waiting for the tide to free them.)

I return to my house, where my children still dream behind locked doors, air conditioning going full blast.



ABOUT MARGARET (MEG) WHEATLEY, Ed.D.

Margaret Wheatley writes, speaks, and teaches how we can accomplish our work, sustain our relationships, and willingly step forward to serve in this troubled time. She is co-founder and President emerita of The Berkana Institute, an organizational consultant since 1973, a global citizen since her youth, and a prolific writer. She has authored eight books. Her numerous articles may be downloaded free at her web site: margaretwheatley.com. For more biographical information, see margaretwheatley.com/bio