

# A Maryknoll Book of Poetry

BEAUTY, TRUTH, AND GOODNESS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Carlo Carretto ❖ Joan Chittister ❖ Thich Nhat Hanh  
Edwina Gateley ❖ Ernesto Cardenal ❖ Dorothee Soelle  
Robert Morneau ❖ David Steindl-Rast ❖ Joyce Rupp  
John Shea ❖ Miriam Therese Winter ❖ Daniel Berrigan  
and many others...

Michael Leach, Doris Goodnough and Helen Phillips, editors

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RELIGION/Spirituality  
RELIGION/Christian Life/Inspirational

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*Beauty and wisdom from spiritual writers on every  
continent to enrich people of every religious tradition.*

*Contributors include:*

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## Thanksgiving Song

As the Great Dynamo who powers the wheels of seasons  
and years

Turns autumn once more into winter,  
At this season of Thanksgiving,  
We give thanks for all seasons.

For winter, who strips trees to their basic design,  
For stark, minimalist winter,  
We give thanks.

May we let go, and grow bright as stars in a clear, frosty  
night,

The more we are stripped of what we thought we could  
not do without.

For the springtime that bursts forth,  
Just when we think winter will never end,  
For irrepressible springtime  
We give thanks.

May we never forget the crippled, wind-beaten trees,  
How they, too, bud, green and bloom,  
May we, too, take courage to bloom where we are  
planted.

For summer, when fruit begins to ripen more and more,  
For the green, swelling high tide of summer  
We give thanks.

May we trust that time is not running out, but coming to  
fulfillment,  
May we wait patiently while time ripens.

For autumn and its slow fruition  
For that season of ultimate rise and fall  
We give thanks,  
May we gracefully rise to the occasion of our own falling,  
Giving ourselves just enough time to go beyond time  
To the great Now  
At the quiet center of the turning wheels.

We give thanks for all seasons  
At this season of Thanksgiving.

—*David Steindl-Rast*