

ADVENT DEVOTION: DECEMBER 3, 2022
12 BASKETS WRITING COLLECTIVE

The following is a poem created by the 12 Baskets Writing Collective, aka Cheese Alliance, on November 4th. We all come from faith different traditions, not all of them Christian. Seeking common ground, mining the liturgy for today, we noticed themes of lament, sorrow, exile, travel and newness. Taking a line from the Psalm, we each began our writing with the line, "Sing a new song." After we wrote our pieces, we passed around a paper in which we each contributed a line, and folded the paper so that only the last line written was visible. This is the poem we made together:

November 4, 2022 - "*Sing a New Song*" first line and write, the collaborative passing of the paper and writing a line based (only) on the last line written

New Song. New Life.

Sing a new song
for in this time we celebrate the virtues of love
seeking, seeking - for what
I know not - now
Know yourself - see yourself -
Old songs are cool.
Your chest filled with roots, grounded and strong
A voice trembling, travelling, long and long
harsh, discordant
You've left behind a home - nest.
Soon you will find peace.
Where will you be when you're finally free?
Plunging deep to bedrock
like an old oak tree,
leaves brilliant in their dying, beauty
abundant in the falling. . .
I'm letting go and I'm grieving in the slow destruction
of the trees and the flowers.
So I'll set the flow and be breathing, the construction
of the freedom in the hours
I'll set sight hard and be healing, the mother, the cups, the towers
the towers will crumble while the people will rise
God sighs, everyone dies, until love crucifies
every cell roots and composts and dies,
and the new life arrives.

Meditation: Try this. Get a piece of paper and write: "Sing a new song." as your first line. Set a timer for 7-10 minutes. See where it takes you.