

Listed below are the poems and song that Nina Flanders shared with us when she led the inspirational talk for us on Father's Day, June 20th.

MUDDLIN' THROUGH

My older sister said it best
As she spoke in words so true
Explaining motherless daughters,
She said we spent our lives just muddlin' through.

I've tried to figure out this world of women
Puzzling when you are raised by a man.
For society has it's own rules for females
Thus at 70, I still muddle through as best I can.

~ *Nina S. Flanders 2001* ~

THE MUSICIAN

The vibrating strings of humanity are made from an alloy of choice and fate
Then stretched over the framework of man.
Each writes and plays their own music but how did we write the chords?
Was it our own creation or did we have help with the music?
Was it all choice in that composition or did fate lend a hand?
Who decided on the major or minor chords, the sharps or flats?
With each touch of the strings, the music resounds through the universe
But it remains a mystery as to who is playing it - my creator or me?

~ *Nina S. Flanders* ~

THE MAGIC OF HIS WORLD

I saw your yellow butterfly and smelled wild roses on the hill
My heart goes back in memory and I hope it always will
I can feel the mud squish through my toes in the ponds of early spring
I hear your tree toads strummin' and all the birds that sing.

Refrain:

Oh Lord, my heart is light today
Yes, Lord you took the gray away
And my heart sings
Yes Lord, you saw my heart today
And gave my spirit wings

I see the rolling prairie grass and smell fresh earth in early spring
I hear the laughter of little children chasing tumbleweeds on a string
I see my daddy in the fields while the smell of lilacs fill the air
I'm transported back in memory and all my mind is there.

Refrain

I love the world you painted on white canvas of a cloud;
I can see the rain dance in the dust while thunder claps so loud.
I feel the snap of winters cold and the heat from burning coal
I feel again my families love and hear again the music of my soul.

Refrain

~ *Nina S. Flanders September 10, 2000* ~