

ST. LOUIS SPRING MORNING – 1996

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As I gazed out my kitchen window at dawn – March 25th of 1996 –
A crimson colored Cardinal landed in my yard and seemed noticeably to twitch.
He hopped from ground to objects, properly placed inside the yard.
This bird's personality was comical ... so I dubbed him a humorous card.

The forecast said the day was cold, 20 degrees was the current high.
And I wondered why the shirt-sleeved weather of yesterday, had evaporated into the sky?
The Cardinal landed gracefully on the budding Magnolia tree -- a few yards away,
And tossed his head from side to side – as he moved with the tree's "wind-sway."

The Cardinal seemed to look straight at me and confusion was on his face.
He seemed to wonder what season this was...and what's wrong with this crazy place?
Snow was falling and swirling around – The wind was 40 miles per hour.
The noise from the rumbling of the West Wind's voice, made me respect nature's tremendous power.

A blush-breasted little robin, came to join the conference clique,
And added his comments to the chat, between this human and bird breed pick.
"Can you fix this weather? For I too came to play."
"Spring's been here officially, for four whole days and I thought it was here to stay."

The Cardinal seemed to sense my helplessness and once again took to the air.
Then he ducked beneath a clump of yews, seeking shelter from the frigid fare.
The wind chill factor was nine below, unreasonable for the season.
Was this God's way of telling us something? --- Did this weather have a reason?

If there is a purpose --- we must search and question to have it revealed,
Like our search for internal knowings of Truth, we've pushed down inside and concealed.
The communication between this human and the feathered friends... of this special day
Seemed to signal that all nature is connected, in a fundamental and wonderful way.

When we assimilate this connection into our every thought and actions of all our days
Will the spring that comes be ever in our hearts and the West Winds force a tool of play?...

All I knew was that my heart felt suddenly light and a song was in my head.
I went upstairs to meditate and finish my sleep – and snuggled comfortably in my nice warm bed.

