

Three Love Letters

By Dennis Payton Knight

We love you, Colorado,
Your mountains and your plains,
your creeks and your streams;
Your aspen, your spruce, your conifer,
and your cottonwood;
Your juicy peaches, your sweet melons,
and your sustaining grains;
Your villages, your towns, and your cities;
Your towering silos, your snow packed slopes,
your parks, your vistas,
and your place in America.
Please, tell us how to paint you.

We love you, America,
Your beaches, your deserts, your lakes,
your mighty rivers, your deltas and your glades;
Your blizzards, your rains, and your rainbows;
Your grasses, your roses, your magnolias,
your cactus, and your sage;
Your palms swaying and your tumbleweeds tumbling;
Your robins, your cardinals, and your eagles soaring;
Your wolves, your antelope, your prairie dogs,
your lightning bugs,
and your place on the Earth.
Please, show us how to serve you.

We love you, Mother Earth,
Your stars, your skies, your oceans, your continents,
your islands, your tundra and your glaciers;
Your faithful geysers, your awful, awesome volcanos,
and your roaring, destructive, restoring fires;
Your whales, your plankton, your lions, and your elephants;
Your tides, your breezes, your winds, and your gales;
Your torrents, your rage, and your calm;
Your latitudes, your longitudes,
your north, your south, your east and your west;
Your languages, your coats of many peoples,
and your place in the Heavens.

Please, teach us how to keep you.