

## What I Did in the COLD (2009)

*By Eydie McDaniel*

Why does extreme cold somewhat debilitate me? I suppose that question drove my ongoing verbal processing during those days. Safe to say being the natural born verbal processor that I am, baring up in silence just wasn't workable.

So I wined, complained fumbled around, committed the sin of resentment, and considered how to face it.

I often relayed the observation of the Olathe corn farmer: When the husks come off easily, the winter will be easy.

When the husks are hard to remove, the winter will be hard. I learned this last summer near Olathe while clasping fresh buttery corn kernels with my happy teeth. Since, I've watched to see if this farmer sage wisdom would pan out. Well it did. the winter of 2008 was nigh on to balmy. **But this winter, ugg!** just barley December, pre- solstice we were shoved into the dang deep freeze. We are stuck with it again and again. Whatever will I do? It is warmer as I write this so I'm off the hook... for now. I have been prancing around in only a few layers gleefully celebrating the 30's that normally intimidate me to shivers.

This much writing would be fait accompli for some but, if you know me, I'm still processing.

As I write this I can't see so well, as the glue on my broken glasses is curing. Furthermore, I can't smell, with this somewhat debilitating cold. What I can do is reflect and celebrate. It actually seems easier to handle blurry vision than extreme cold. It made no difference that the breakfast avocado was brown. Tongue and nose said nothing and stomach didn't care. I just burned some incense as usual but for the neighbors benefit. I have this great computer, with the font at a nice 36 point and the screen up to 200% or even 400%. Ah lovely. With some squinting I can kind of read. I feel reassured to discover that the magnifying glass and the computer favors help me win a victory over the thought of losing my sight sometime soon.

I'll be glad when glasses on my face take away the queezy fuzz from my world. In the mean time: as to the coming cold days, I gave myself a license to stay warm at home any time I can, and happily profess: :“SPRING IS COMING”!