

What A Wonderful World!

By Marilyn Reeves

One of the most delightful things about this wonderful world is music. Whether it's waking to the sound of a tiny song sparrow singing his heart out on an early spring morning, or feeling your heart pounding to the beat-beat-beat of the tom-tom, nothing seems to stir our emotions more than music.

Music can also stir memories. When we suddenly hear some long-forgotten tune, it takes us back in time. Perhaps it's a song our mother used to sing to us that takes us back to our early childhood. Or the one they were playing on the radio when we had our first kiss. Or maybe some good old rock & roll music that recalls memories of those lively high school sock hops. In my case, whenever I hear the lovely tune 'Stardust' it takes me back to my own high school days, as 'Stardust' was the theme song our band played at 'Spartan Sparkles' – Salida High's annual public variety show. It was also the last song played at the end of our Proms and Home Coming dances. I've heard it said that people suffering from Alzheimer's disease and are unable to speak or even recognize the faces of loved ones, can be momentarily revitalized by a favorite old song, even to the point of singing the lyrics!

So whether it's mood music, jazz music, hearing a symphony or some song that conjures up long-lost memories, music is one of the best things in life. There are so many good things in life, that it would take a lifetime to record them all. But I think Louis Armstrong summed it up best with the lyrics from 'What a Wonderful World.'

*I see trees of green,
red roses too.
I see them bloom,
for me and you.
And I think to myself,
what a wonderful world.*

*I see skies of blue,
And clouds of white.
The bright blessed day,
The dark sacred night.
And I think to myself,
What a wonderful world.*

*The colors of the rainbow,
So pretty in the sky.
Are also on the faces,
Of people going by,
I see friends shaking hands.
Saying, "How do you do?"
They're really saying,
"I love you".*

*I hear babies cry,
I watch them grow,
They'll learn much more,
Than I'll ever know.
And I think to myself,
What a wonderful world.*

*Yes, I think to myself,
What a wonderful world.*

Oh, yeah!