## A Gathering of Angels

## By Marilynn Reeves

Since the Bible refers to virtuous souls ascending into Heaven, those of us left behind often look to the sky, believing that Heaven must be somewhere up there beyond the clouds, in some invisible firmament we mortals cannot see. Many also believe that when someone arrives at the Pearly Gates they are transformed into Angels and receive a pair of wings.

Let's assume for a moment that the stories we hear are true. There is one such Angel who left us just a few days ago. Although I had the privilege of knowing her for a only few short months, a sweeter, kinder, more positive soul I have never met, and I despair that she was taken from us too soon!

I like to imagine that as her spirit ascended, she might have been greeted by another Angel who also left us quite recently.

"Hello, my name is Maggie. Although we haven't met before, I was sent to escort you to your new home. I've only been here a short time myself, but I'm happy to tell you that I have been made young again, and that my sight has been restored to me, so that I can see again. I know your name is Roxie, and I can see that you are beautiful. You may not know it, but you've been an Angel all along. Now, come with me and I'll take you to the place where you can find your wings."

"Oh, but I feel so sad, leaving my friends and family behind!" cries Roxie.

"No need to be sad. All those who knew you are sad to see you go, but they'll be with us soon enough. At least we can smile down at them and come to them in their dreams. I think the reason I was sent to you was because I belonged to the same group of Writers as you. There have been so many good people in that gathering of souls! I won't name names, but some of them are already Angels, too. But, like you, they are unaware of it, since they haven't ascended yet, so they haven't received their wings. They still have business to attend to back on earth, but they'll be joining us before too long. Now, come with me and I'll introduce you to Kay and Carole. They were in our group as well. They both ascended together, just a couple of years ago."

Wherever you are, Roxie, Maggie, Carole and Kay – whether it's somewhere up beyond the sky or in an alternate state of being – we miss you and wish you well. Say hello to Fred and Mike and Howie for us. We miss them, too.

God speed, lovely Roxie! Enjoy trying out your new wings.