**An Appalachian Wedding**

By Thomas Berry

Written for Paul Winter's wedding   
  
  
Look up at the sky   
the heavens so blue   
the sun so radiant   
the clouds so playful   
the soaring raptors   
woodland creatures   
meadows in bloom   
rivers singing their   
way to the sea   
wolfsong on the land   
whalesong in the sea   
celebration everywhere   
wild, riotous   
immense as a monsoon   
lifting an ocean of joy   
then spilling it down over   
the Appalachian landscape   
drenching us all   
in a deluge of delight   
as we open our arms and   
rush toward each other   
all of us moved by that vast   
compassionate curve   
that brings all things together   
in intimate celebration   
celebration that is   
the universe itself.