

Journaling & Reflection

THE WILDERNESS IS A PLACE OF
NEW LIFE—RESILIENT LIFE

What seeds planted in your wilderness have grown into a garden? What are the seeds you are planting now that you pray will one day bloom?

Poem on Wilderness

THE WILDERNESS IS A PLACE OF
NEW LIFE—RESILIENT LIFE

I used to think the wilderness
would never end.

I called my mom and asked—
“Does time really heal
all wounds?”

Do the pieces ever fall back
into place?

Does the wilderness go
on forever?”

So she told me about
the horizon.

She said, “There is an edge,
Where the earth meets the sky.
And when you’re there,
You will see daisies in
the sidewalk
And the sun after the rain.”

I asked her to draw me a map
And she cried,
Because she knew this road was
mine to walk,
But she promised to wait
for me,
Day in and day out,
For as long as the wilderness
raged.

So I walked.
And it felt like forty days and it
hurt like forty nights.
And I waved to the people I
passed there in the
wilderness.

We tipped our hats to
one another,
Silently recognizing the weight
we each carried,
Until one day, I realized—
The earth always kisses the sky.
And this wilderness has turned
into a garden,
And I have made it out alive.

And my mother hugged me,
There at the earth’s edge.
And she whispered in my ear,
That God was that gardener,
And that I had nothing to fear.

So if you ever ask for a map,
Know that God and I will be
planting seeds,
Hoping to turn your wilderness
into a garden.

For as long as the wilderness
rages on,
I will never stop looking for you
Where the earth kisses the sky.

Prayer by Sarah Are