

# *Plantings*

*In Poetry, Essay, and Song*

**Deanna Harrington Christiansen**

*Author of Notes On a Flight Home, Selected Poetry*

**Glen Aubrey, Music**



[www.deannachristiansen.com](http://www.deannachristiansen.com)



Creative Team Publishing  
San Diego

# Foreword

Larry Warner

Founder of b Ministries – [www.b-ing.com](http://www.b-ing.com)  
believing . being . becoming

For years I have enjoyed reading the poems that Deanna would occasionally share with me. Her poems seem to effortlessly flow from her own life, observations, or the lives of others that God has brought across her path. The blank pages for her are a canvas, painted on with words, vivid, rich, intense words that equally speak to head and heart. So when she asked me to write a Foreword to her book I was honored and intimidated, for Deanna has a way with words.

She can string words together with the skill of a master artisan. Like Michelangelo who could see the sculpture hiding within the rock, Deanna sees the poetry, the beauty, the truth within the world that surrounds her and then has the skill, patience, and expertise to chip away and delicately shape what she has seen within the marble of her life and circumstances, so we can see it, too, so we can be touched by and experience its beauty, be arrested by the truth contained therein.

Her range of subject matter is extraordinary. She can extract beauty out of a pebble-worth of experience as well as from the trunk of a tall long-standing red maple. She has

an eye that can see what others' eyes do not, and can convey what she has perceived with wonderful lucidity and simple sophistication.

So as I opened this book I was expecting a book of poems, short poems, long poems, lyrical poems, meter poems, and rhythmic poems. And though there are poems to be found here, there is much more, much, much more. There are poems—I would have been disappointed if none of her lovely and poignant poetry was to be found on these pages—but there are also short essays, reflections, and musings.

This book you hold in your hands is going to take you on a journey through time and space. It will transport you back to Pearl Harbor, Teddy Roosevelt, in fact, as far back as 1825. You will also travel with Deanna from coast to coast as she makes her way out West and then back home again. You will read of love lost and love found. You will be introduced to people who you will long to know, as well as places that you will long to visit.

This is no mere book, but is a passport for an adventure of the heart, so take your time to linger with the people and places you will discover as you journey through these pages, savor the words and images that take form right before your eyes, give the words room to engage your imagination, heart, and soul.

Endorsements on Behalf of  
*Plantings*  
*In Poetry, Essay, and Song*  
*Glen Aubrey, music*

“I am so happy to provide this endorsement for Deanna’s new book. I’ve been blessed to read most of her writings and have never been disappointed with any of them, be it prose or poetry. Deanna has an artist’s heart and paints with pen and paper instead of brush and canvas. She creates vivid pictures and sets moods so well she takes me to that very place/event she is describing. Her poems especially can make me smile or weep for their tenderness and depth—or smile and laugh for remembered similar happy scenes. Her closeness to the Lord, I believe, enables her to write also with great strength and clarity, as in the *Philippian Jail* piece. To sum up her gift in a few words—she draws one right into each scene and each thought and feeling. One cannot read these pieces and not be involved with her in the telling. Beautifully rendered word paintings.”

~ Mrs. Sandy Garman, Visual Artist

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Endorsements*

“Author Deanna Christiansen is a woman of great insight and depth of character. Whatever she writes, whether prose or poetry, is a thing of beauty that elevates the soul and challenges the reader to think beyond the written word and transports us to a surprising, deeper understanding of life, spirituality, and the common threads of human kind.”

~ **L. Cherie Prather, Owner, Le Cose Bella Organic Jams, Jellies, and Marmalades**

\*\*\*\*\*

“Storytelling is an art I envy, and it is best told by someone, like Deanna, who has a real story to tell. I have known Deanna for more than 30 years, and I know many of her stories. They spring forward in her poetry and the authentic ways she portrays her experiences in prose. There is a depth of life and spirituality that lives in her expressions. She draws you in to her world, her insight, her loves, her humor and even her pain. She has completed this latest storytelling task with excellence in this new presentation. Take a moment; sit down with her (and her husband John) as if you were in their dining room enjoying a thought-provoking conversation.”

~ **Gene Mastin, PhD, Center for Counseling and Family Studies, Liberty University**

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Endorsements*

“Deanna’s writing offers a volume to pick up and open to any selection for a moment’s refuge from the clutter of the day. She has the courage to reveal deeply personal opinion and belief as well as the talent to evoke vivid imagery as she gives voice to the human heart and spirit. I smiled with the sweetness of some poems and welcomed her insights that stir Hope and Love and Trust. Deanna has a creative gift that she generously shares.”

~ **Theresa Orr, Justice of the Peace, Retired Associate Dean of Harvard Medical School**

\*\*\*\*\*

“Deanna's work is very special. Her poetry communicates to the reader the unique relationship existing between her, the Divine, and the Creation; this relationship affects and inspires her writing ultimately inviting the reader to empathize more with others, hope, and experience a richer contemplative life on earth.”

~ **Chris Chaves, Ed.D.**

\*\*\*\*\*

# Products and Services

*www.deannachristiansen.com*

*Notes on a Flight Home, Selected Poetry*, 225 pages, published in 2008 with Creative Team Publishing, contains poetry and piano/vocal scores for two original songs, lyrics by Deanna Christiansen and music by Glen Aubrey. *Notes on a Flight Home* is available from Deanna's website, the Creative Team Publishing website ([www.CreativeTeamPublishing.com](http://www.CreativeTeamPublishing.com)), or by online ordering through major book outlets.

"Notes", an audio CD, was produced in tandem with *Notes on a Flight Home*. This CD holds original piano music composed and played by Glen Aubrey, and 3 of her poems read by Deanna. The audio CD is available only through Deanna's website, and will be included in the purchase of the book, *Notes on a Flight Home*.

Sheet music for "Sparrow Song" and "Yours The Kingdom" is available from Deanna's website.

*Plantings, in Poetry, Essay and Song* published in 2014, is available from [www.deannachristiansen.com](http://www.deannachristiansen.com), from Creative Team Publishing, and any major bookseller through online ordering.

The **Audio Music CD “Plantings”** accompanying the book is **available only with book orders through the author’s website**. This CD contains original piano music composed and played by Glen Aubrey, including several original songs composed expressly in response to poems in the book.

Deanna posts new articles, poetry, reflections, stories, queries, and prayers, as they manifest, on her website. Open the “*Deanna’s Journal*” tab.

Deanna is available locally for poetry readings, for small gatherings, or larger. She and her husband, John, prepare periodic Christian spiritual day retreats, and she welcomes other opportunities for ministry. Please contact her at her website for scheduling your event and additional information.



**[www.deannachristiansen.com](http://www.deannachristiansen.com)**