

TRUTH'S SEAMLESS ROBE  
(Memorial Ceremony.)

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by  
Katharine Curzon Lowman, P.M.

8--15

At the proper time the Worthy Matron will begin this addendum by saying:

WORTHY MATRON:

Each new year comes with Gladness,  
Inwrapped in Hope's bright gown;  
No trimming - made of sadness -  
Seems anywhere around.

But as the year advances  
And brings to light its style,  
We see the "sadness trimming"  
Which was there all the while.

So let us pause to ponder  
How our year has been dress'd,  
And see, besides the trimming,  
The seams by sorrow press'd.

Worthy Matron addresses the Secretary.

Sister Secretary: (She arises.) You will read the names of members  
who, within the past --- year(s),

Have left their robes of worldly care,  
Of shoddy goods - worn thin and bare,  
And have put on soft robes of white,  
Which all shall wear in Truth's clear light.

No trimming made by Sorrow's hand  
Adorns the robes of heaven-land;  
There no one wears drab Sorrow's pall;  
Truth's seamless robe is worn by all.

Secretary reads the names of deceased members. (Those who have "passed  
on" during the past year only or covering as many years as you wish.)  
Secretary sits when through reading.

Worthy Matron addresses the Marshal who stands when addressed.

Sister Marshal: You have by your chair a basket,  
It is tall and deep and strong;

Will you carry it now to the Star Points,  
So they may pass it along?

Marshal takes the basket which was placed by her station earlier in the evening and goes to Adah who speaks and places in the basket a blue flower (or blue flowers).

ADAH: Our Adah was not afraid to die -  
So take her flowers, as you pass by,  
For it must belong to the sweet bouquet  
Which you are to gather in this room today.  
(Puts flower(s) in basket and Marshal goes to Ruth.)

RUTH: Our Ruth, a young widow, knew Sorrow - So she  
Would have accepted a bright flower from me.

Each Star Point places flower and Marshal advances to the next. The flowers may be of colors appropriate to the Points or all may be the same color.

ESTHER: Queen Esther, the wife in our Order,  
faced death - face to face -  
To save her dear people from death and disgrace;  
'Tis right you should take, from her station,  
a flow'r fresh and bright;  
It should have a place in your basket tonight.

MARTHA: If Martha were here, she would still say today:  
"Lord, if thou hadst been here, they need not  
have gone away".  
And so from her station, I give you this flower;  
For Faith ne'er will leave us - ne'er, too, will its power.

ELECTA: At Electa's red point, we are taught we should love,  
And despair not for Truth, but to lift eyes above  
'Till we see that he who, for himself, overcame  
All of Evil's vain boast as to power or fame,  
Is most certainly able to care for his own;  
To take them, and keep them, ever safe in His home.

So a flower from Electa intends we shall be  
Ever mindful that Love rules on land and on sea;  
And the strong arms of Love form a protecting dress,  
In which are no seams for dumb Sorrow to press.

Marshal takes basket to the Chaplain and asks her to take it to the altar.

MARSHAL: Sister Chaplain, we all know  
How you to the altar go  
There to offer fervent prayer,  
And proclaim God's tender care.

Truth's Seamless Robe

Take this basket flower-filled,  
With loving thoughts for voices stilled,  
To the altar. Place it there,  
In loving mem'ry, with a prayer.

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Marshal gives basket to the Chaplain and continues on her way across the east to her station, while the Chaplain goes to the altar to place the basket of flowers and to offer the following prayer. (Music during the march to and from the altar.)

CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER.

Dear Father of us all, we come  
When hearts are sad and lips are dumb,  
To hear Thy whispered, "peace, be still",  
When Sorrow's storms our thoughts would fill,  
And cause us to be unaware  
That we are safe within Thy care - Forever.

Not only we - but those we love,  
If dwelling here or there, above  
The cares and sorrows of this life -  
Are safe from storms of sin and strife.  
And so we thank Thee for Thy care  
Which never leaves us anywhere - Forever.  
Amen.

(Chaplain returns to her station.)

A soloist or duet may sing "No Night There" or some other hymn to end this addendum.

The End

In the Garden  
Beyond the Forest