

Readying to Rise

Esperanza Spalding

What comes when you rise from the middle
Then step up and ride the comet
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You've figured out so much up there
On your own now let us step in
The bottom half that moves you round the world
The legs and orbit of your dream are vast
You spot it then just watch it pass

Psst, psst, down here
We remember everything you've come through
And we're readying to rise you

There's a new modality of love to be dis-covered
What are you waiting for?

We're dangled or crossed
Beneath you like we're worthless
While you work away
We're bent or locked still
Listening to tapping digits
We too must uphold, so holy
And what's great about them?
Everything they've ever carried
They've put down and left somewhere
At best to maybe someday be re-found

We work the largest muscle groups
And come up against sit bones
What makes you so tired?
When we're readying to rise?

Worrying and forgetting where you were headed
Even with your thoughts distracted, we'll get there walking

We know you and why you never
See us or get to know us
And on airplanes we have no space
Because it is presumed we have no insights
Or senses that contribute to our goals

Our language is the memory of everywhere you've been
In usefulness we preach
And you may refer to us whenever you are lost, or stuck
Or doubting will with its brain-based complexities

We've been through it all with you
And do our best to move you
With dual reminders of your progress
And how you must walk the distance ahead
What you are facing now may appear to be more
Of the same
But we are readying to rise you
To another plane of existence

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