

# VIEW FROM A STILL PLACE

## Introduction

*This book is a gesture of Love and Gratitude to the exquisite world in which we live. It is a Celebration of the extraordinariness of the ordinary, and the ordinariness of the extraordinary, present for us everywhere and all the time here on Earth.*

*These pages are taken from my journals. Journal writing is, by definition, a record of the ordinary, the daily, moments of one's own small life. The pieces in this collection were not written for publication. Some of them are extracts from letters. I ask you therefore, dear reader, to make allowances for the places where they are very personal and subjective. They were written because the world, whether viewed from the mountaintops or one's own city window, is so very beautiful, and Beauty excites language. And because a friend kept me supplied with her lovely handmade blank books, journaling became inevitable.*

*But words grow restless in a closed book. They long to be shared, for that is the work they are born to. I offer these observations of the ordinary and the extraordinary to you in the knowledge that your heart too resonates to the Beauty and Mystery of our world.*

## Sample Piece

### The Path of Enlightenment

Spread like carpet on the moraine floor, here under these massive bastions of grey, these towering bluffs, these sculptures of glacial debris, drinking grey rain from the low grey cloud, you lie with your arms open to all the world's light, gathering, gathering into your tiny life all the brightness of a sun that is not shining from this obscured sky...

Little moss, you are colour itself! Alight and joyous in this monochrome valley of harshness, your incantation of white, gold, and green. The world illumined from below, for a change. Perhaps you can teach us, little moss, to look beneath our own feet for enlightenment...