

## Musing

March 2019 - "Appreciating Winter"

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What a winter this has been! So much snow. So much cold. It seemed as though it would never end....and yet, it really wasn't so bad.....

A "real" winter is something to treasure. There is immense beauty and immeasurable peace in the winter forest, freshly blanketed in new fallen snow. It coats the pines and covers the frozen lakes, muffling sounds and creating a sense of isolation and solitude far different from any other time of year. At night the stars shine brighter and the landscape glows under a full moon, reflecting the white that has blanketed our surroundings. Winter is a time of reflection, a time to take stock and appreciate Mother Earth, hearth and home. A time of gratitude and regeneration of spirit. A time of peace.

March, as winter begins to wane, is also a time to anticipate. Warmer, sunny days and the drip drip dripping of the ice melting from the roof remind us that soon we will see our lovely lakes sparkling in that sunshine. We will hear the call of the loons as they've made their way back to their summer homes. We will smell the loamy forest as melting snow exposes autumn's fallen leaves. We will admire baby ducks swimming by our docks.

It's all coming, very soon.

Not to rush, though. There is still much to relish as we travel through this season of change.