

Five Prayers from *I Am Sophia*, a novel by J. F. Alexander

HOLY, LOVING, LOVELY GOD:

Let us glorify and adore you, great mystery.

Sublime father, mother, teacher, lover, friend, deepest self,
you are ever present with us and in us.

If it is your will:

 grace us with another day,
 give us passionate gratitude for your abundance,
 heal our desperate brokenness,
 send us the humiliations that will grow our souls,
 open us to serve as conduits of your grace, and
 help us to see you in all;

So that we may incarnate your love.

Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD OF VAST ABUNDANCE:

Tireless one, in freedom and joy

 you cultivate orchards of unimaginable variety.

Behold, you have said yes to every imperfect existing thing.

I give thanks that you chose even me, a soul-broken orphan.

Majesty beyond all glory! Artist of novelty!

We suckle at your breasts,

 your worlds without end.

Amen.

ALL-VULNERABLE GOD OF DEEP PRESENCE:

In your merciful desire to redeem us from nothingness,

 you choose to sojourn within the limits of mortal existence.

Glory to you, consciousness within all beings, deepest me!

When I hate, I hate you; when I eat, I eat your flesh.

You have allowed yourself to be bound and beaten,

 cut and raped and broken—with me and in me.

Before Abraham was, I Am.

Amen.

ALL-EMBRACING GOD OF INCARNATE LOVE:

You patiently purify our longing,
 toppling our idols of success and false certitude
 and gracing us lovingly with glimpses of your wholeness.
Help me to put away my infantile fears and appetites.
Strangle my blinding, grinding over-and-against-ness and
 my thirst to be separate and special and admired.
Entangle my most passionate desire with your own.
Amen.

UNFATHOMABLE LIVING GOD:

Have mercy on the wretched who presume to write such things, on the fools
 who sweat to entomb your dynamic wisdom in a mausoleum of words.
Just when you appear secure, just when your epitaph is composed,
 the stone rolls away and you dance out of sight,
 because you mightily eclipse every thought and each grinding ax.
Beloved, give us to taste your reality beyond all words,
 so much as we can endure.
Amen.

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Final submission to LunARC's first mission to earth's moon.