

OPENING WORDS/ CALL TO WORSHIP

Alone

By Maya Angelou

Lying, thinking
Last night
How to *find* my soul a home
Where water is not thirsty
And bread loaf is not stone
I came up with one thing
And I don't believe I'm wrong
That nobody,
But nobody
Can make it out here alone.

Alone, all alone
Nobody, but nobody
Can make it out here alone.

There are some millionaires
With money they can't use
Their wives (spouses) (partners) run round like banshees
Their children sing the blues
They've got expensive doctors
To cure *their hearts of stone*.
But nobody
No, nobody
Can make it out here alone.

Alone, all alone
Nobody, but nobody
Can make it out here *alone*.

Now if you listen closely
I'll tell you what I know
Storm clouds are gathering
The wind is gonna blow
The race of man is suffering
And I can hear *the moan*,
'Cause nobody,
But nobody
Can make it out here alone.

Alone, all alone
Nobody, but nobody
Can make it out here alone.

Everyone needs *other people* in this journey through life.
Life is not meant to be experienced alone.

Regardless of circumstance,
rich or poor, in sickness and in wellness, people need people.

Everyone benefits from having healthy relationships
and strong support systems.

Everyone longs for these when they do not have them.

Today let us explore how to cultivate warm,
compassionate friendships,
how to be *Roses in Winter* to each other.

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Opening words/ Call to Worship
“Roses in Winter”
Service delivered by Rev. “Twinkle” Marie Manning
Sunday, February 26th, 2023
Waterville, Maine