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## The Great Return

Gregory J. Hobbs

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**MOTHER OF ALL CANYONS**

Take us back to the River  
the source the mouth and the pour  
loosed in high Never Summers  
the Winds West Elks Dinosaur

Lend us two guides a swamper  
get ready life vests the swell  
onset the crest of huge waves  
on skilled boatmen we depend

Wet is the way of birthing  
mothers the grandeur of God  
light and grace be your glory  
wonder your most awesome praise.

**THE GREAT RETURN**

May you have the joy of rising waters  
May the awe of ages surround you

May your feet sound soft upon the land  
May the sweep of Nankowweep embrace you

May the Great Blue Heron stand upon her bar for you  
And the Father of all mountain sheep stand vigilant on his loft

May you run the River true and hoot upon the waves  
May you, your family, your friends pass through

And always return home, home, and home again.

**ANY ORDINARY INSTRUMENT**

The dream of every boy, to ride along a light beam  
Imagine at 16 they call you Einstein

You can lose your grip, never ride that beam again  
Playing the violin he does his very best imagining

Slower than light, sound. And every time I play  
I come that much closer to riding a light beam.