

Merton's Place

(For Brother Paul Quenon, OCSO, Gethsemani Abbey)

By **Randy Cox**

Dawn breaks silently upon
Stands of Oaks and slender Pines
Now older and closer to Heaven

This place of grace is old and new
Suited well for saint or sinner
Ground is holy, shoes allowed

Morning glories, chanting breezes
Wakened echoes of distant knobs
Lauding lake, flowers in God-array

Solitary, still, spring
Up at Merton's place
Always Merton's place

Randy Cox is a Lay Cistercian of the Abbey of Gethsemani with a strong commitment to the Cistercian charism fostered by personal friendships with several of the monks. This poem is the result of a day spent at Thomas Merton's hermitage in early spring, 2011.



Randy Cox