

## *MM Moment Before Christmas Looking for a Star*

Last night my cell-phone rang...scared the heck out of me...  
I rarely get a call unless from some robo-call...

It was our daughter, Linda, who lives along a path  
through some woods to the next door acre.

"Look quick" I think she said...  
"a star that won't come back for 6,000 years!"  
I better take a look since I won't be around for a next time.

So out on the front deck I pranced...  
sighted a half-moon in her direction...  
also a nearby star..  
wrong star.

"Come down on the driveway" she said...  
out from under the oak trees...into the dark night...  
her light led me on down by the road.

The southwest sky had several planets or stars...  
one a bit brighter than others...  
that one was two...Jupiter and Saturn she said...  
last seen about 800 years ago.

Some called it "the Christmas star"...  
famous in Matthew's mythical story of the birth of Jesus...  
who writes of a star in the East that evolved into  
"We Three Kings" following yonder star...  
And "The stars in the sky" looking down where he lay.

There must have been a thousand-million people---more or less...  
that have looked at that conjunction of planets...  
with some sense of wonder and mystery  
but not as a special sign that the Holy was about to show up.

So I'm about to make a great moment out of this  
when suddenly what on our deck should appear...  
an invisible caroler bidding us to open a window..

We dropped everything peering out into the dark...  
hearing "O Holy Night the stars are brightly shining..."  
so we sang back into the dark  
singing "O Little Town" and "Joy to the World"  
until both of us retreated into the dark night.

Just like Luke says --- the sacred moments arrive unexpected...  
in ways so simply that we might miss them  
and so treasured we will never forget them.

*For the Moment...*

*Christmas Week 2020*