

This

Two-Minute Drill



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Season's Greetings

This time of year is a time for singing. At no other point in the calendar do we feel comfortable walking door to door as a group singing to our neighbors.

Even that neighbor who borrowed our power drill last summer and never returned it. Or the one who refuses to mow and puts up "Natural Prairie Grass" signs in his lawn. We sing to them regardless.

The ceremonies we perform to mark the holiday season overflow with music and song. Choirs perform in malls, carolers visit senior citizens, churches showcase the splendors of their big pipe organs, schools put on their pageants.

When we hear a familiar tune playing in the background we are distracted -- if just for a moment -- from the stress of our day. People don't look at us strangely when we break into song in the elevator or at the office; on the bus or when the train passes. If they do stare, they are considerate enough to wait until we're not looking.

The songs of the season unite us with their familiarity. Sure in a few weeks we'll be sick to death of them, but for now they give us joy and peace and comfort.

Certain tunes take us immediately back to a cherished moment in our past. I remember my dad singing along with Nat King Cole on "The Christmas Song" as it played on the car radio: I am transported 35 years into the past and my heart is filled with love and reminiscence. Yes, some wistfulness, too. That will always be part of that song, and I am happy for it.

Consider the following words written by Rabindranath Tagore, the Nobel Prize winning poet:

"Singing fills the infinite between two souls."

Ask yourself:

How will I celebrate in song today?

What will it deliver to me and to others?

What will it deliver to others?