

EVEN A TREE

© KaNikki Jakarta, Poet Laureate of Alexandria, Virginia
2020 Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony
November 14, 2020

Everything single thing has a purpose
To be
Even a tree
They contribute to our community
by providing oxygen, conserving water, and supporting wildlife
And tonight
This tree will shine bright
Reminding us to evoke our own light
Symbolizing a starry night
When Christ was born
A tree adorned
A reminder
Of light
Of hope
And good in the world
A mesmerizing image
for little boys and little girls
And for adults
A remembrance of childhood aspirations
And having an imagination
Of what was to be
So let this tree
Illuminate us
Casting a light far beyond our dreams
Brighten our days
Brighten our expectations
Light a path to a destination
And let us collect a harvest
Celebrating the return of the light of the sun
As the days grow longer after solstice
let us be reminded that there is light after darkness
And that we too are light
We too shine bright
We too were born to be adorned
Everything single thing has a purpose
Even you
Even me
Even a tree
As we take root
And grow the fruits
Of a life
Never forgetting
To shine bright