Willi Nolan, 2000
Sept. 2000
Mixed Blood teachings

Greetings,

This came last moontime, just before a gathering at Big Cove. During the gathering, one of my new friends, a kind Mi'kmaw man who looked very white, was saddened after someone, who looked like Lnu/an Indian, was verbally racist towards him. I had a few printed copies of this teaching, and gave one to him. He said that his saddness lessened after he read it.

In July, I worked at the kitchen during another gathering . On the fourth day, I was challenged to defend these old ways. It was hard, but I felt good to be standing strong. On the fifth day, I was subjected to extreme racist assaults by a woman who looked Red but acted White. I was shocked and saddened by this, like my friend at the Big Cove gathering. I was lucky that friends came along to help me to cry and let it go, to let me know that they were glad that I was there, and to help me to think and pray about this. I prayed a lot for everyone who knew about these things. And for guidance - why did I have to have THAT lesson again? What gift is there in THAT?

Days later, an Elder friend told me to always remember that I have a right to choose the way that I want to worship my Creator. This right is also governed by the Constitution of the United Nations and Canada. And I remembered that I love the way that I have learned to pray, and to live a good life; this way is right for me. Then I felt stronger, and began to wait for the gift of a teaching from this. I am glad to share it with you.

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Mixed Blood teachings

Mixed blood, why do you wonder where you belong?
You have entered the world a child of many races
Giving the peoples of the world a chance to see itself as one, through you.
But you, you have given the Indian people a special gift.

Because you were born with the right to choose any path,

And you choose to pray in the way of our old ones
You honour this land where you were born,
And your prayers give strength to all of your relatives here.

The Grandfathers and Grandmothers are happy that you speak to them,
And we are happy when you remember us
Among all of the Spirits that walk with you,
And we listen to your special prayers for peace and a good life.

Be patient with your Red relatives.
They too grew up in a racist society, and
It is hard for some to find Spirit when they only see faces.
They forget that some of the Grandmothers and Grandfathers were hidden and forgotten.

Mixed blood, when you walk the way of the people,
You show them that you have not forgotten.

Help them to let go of the shame, help them to remember the teachings
Of the time that was to come, when all of the races came together as one.
It is said that a Nation of Rainbow Warriors would come
And lead the way for Mother Earth to heal from near destruction

Mixed blood, why do you wonder where you belong?

Willi Nolan, 2000

Emsit Nogama

"The old people said to live beautifully with prayers and song. Some died for beauty too."
"How do we do that, Uncle Ralph, live for beauty?"
"It's simple, Pumpkin Flower," he said. "Believe!"
excerpted from "The Warriors" by Anna Lee Walters