

The Upper Room

A monologue of one present on the Day of Pentecost

By: Nora Spinaio

(The person, male or female, is in Biblical costume. The actor should say the lines in a very conversational tone.)

(Approaches the podium, stops halfway, listens, and holds hand up as if to call for silence and then proceeds to podium.)

I can still hear it. Do you hear it? (Beat) No? It was something else. I was there, you know. (Beat) Maybe, I should explain.

My name is not important. Let's just say that I was one of the 120 in the Upper Room. (Beat) Yes, that upper room. We were all followers of Jesus. That's what we were called you know, followers of Jesus of Nazareth.

We had seen Jesus for 40 days after his resurrection. Before he ascended to Heaven he gave us instructions. He said to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came and filled us with power. I didn't understand it but I obeyed the same as everyone else.

We found an upper room. We prayed. We fellowshiped. We prayed some more. Someone prepared food, so we ate. We slept little and lightly because we could all feel it. We just knew something very special was going to happen in that room. We just didn't know when and we weren't sure what.

So, we talked of the Lord, we prayed, and we waited. No one ever spoke of leaving. We had already come too far in our obedience. We weren't going anywhere until the promise came.

(Beat)

Personally, I wasn't sure what we were waiting for but I had learned that obeying the Lord was the surest way to blessings. After all, he had taken care of us for 3 ½ years. He had loved us more than a brother. He had fed the multitudes and he had healed the sick and lame. (Beat) I knew he had risen from the dead. (Beat)...the dead no less... and I had seen him since.

I was more than willing to go on faith. (Beat) I'm glad I did.

We had been in that upper room for 10 days. On the 10th day, he came. (Beat, looks around at the audience) You want to know who. (Beat) The Holy Spirit.

I don't know how long we had been praying that day. It felt like moments but who knows. (Shrugs)

The room had gone very still. Even the air was still as midnight though it was mid-afternoon and the windows were open. Even the noise from the street below had somehow vanished. I didn't hear anything until He came.

(Beat)

First, I felt his presence. It felt like a long lost friend had entered the room and embraced me. Then, I heard him. A mighty rushing wind...the writer of Acts described it perfectly.

I opened my eyes just in time to see what appeared to be a tongue of fire coming toward me. I had no fear, no confusion, just the most perfect peace. (Sighs) The tongue of fire (beat) for there's no other way to describe it sat on my head and then...amazingly enough...I began speaking in a language I had never learned.

The truly amazing thing was everyone around me was speaking in other languages too. It sounded like a chorus... a chorus of voices (beat) a chorus of praises to God.

My mind reeled with praising God and speaking in this new tongue the Holy Spirit had supplied. I felt his presence within me.

After a very little while, I heard other voices, voices from outside the window. A crowd had gathered under one of the windows. I could hear many of them laughing and calling out "I think they're drunk."

I saw Peter lean out of the window and start preaching to the crowd. He preached and we prayed. His voice rang out over the crowd with great authority. And we prayed. Thousands were brought to Christ that day and we praised God.

(Beat)

You think I am so much more spiritual than you. You can have the same type of relationship with Jesus as we did. It's not about any special moment in history. It's about your relationship with Jesus.

(Beat)

Oh, but I've started preaching when I only meant to tell you about the upper room experience. (Looks out over audience)

You can read the rest in Acts. Many things about our relationships with Jesus are there. I just wanted to tell you about my first experience with the Holy Spirit. I hope I've done many things for the Lord since then.

(Beat)

Shalom

(Actor bows his head before leaving the stage)