

SUNRISE IN A GARDEN'S SOLITUDE

Darry D Eggleston, August 7, 2009

Sometimes, you have to go slow to go fast. What better place to do that than in your garden?

In the morning, I'm out of bed like a shot and into my morning rituals before I have time to talk myself out of them. There's the obligatory potty break and then the half-hour walk with our two puppies around the block. Then home to my computer to see who has made the time to email me.

Because my wife is a night person and I'm a morning person, I have a few hours to myself before she joins me at about 8 every morning.

Lately, I've taken to spending a few moments as the sun comes up — coffee cup in hand — sitting in our garden with the puppies. While our puppies sniff out new critters that have graced our landscape, explore areas they can't seem to remember from the day before and remain on constant alert for some dog having the nerve to walk his owner around the block, I sit and watch the sun rise.

It's a quiet time and a quiet neighborhood in a secluded garden. For whatever reasons, the mosquitoes have gone to bed, the lizards are starting to muster, and the dew hangs heavy on every leaf. It's an olfactory, visual and sensory delight.

What starts out as total darkness eases into twilight and then into full light, transitioning as no movie has every shown and no imagination can create.

Of course, I can see the bushes in the moon lit landscape, but details are non-existent. Slowly — ever so slowly — leaves begin to appear as the rays of the still hidden sun sneak over the horizon. Then the flowers make their morning entry, opening up or peaking from behind a leaf or two. Finally, the shapes, hues and colors I have grown accustom to appear as the sun shakes off its sleep and yawns into another day.

The coffee is warm, the morning air is crisp and the sun's shine if a reminder that today is the best day yet to breath, to live and to be.

If you have never begun your day in your garden, try it.

If you've never seen the sun rise among the surroundings you've created, try it.

Your garden is there. The sun will rise. The day will wait. Open the gate to the adventures of another day by spending a few moments in the beauty that surrounds you in the garden of possibilities right outside your door.

Where will you spend the best of your life?

As for me, I have to go. My garden beckons and the sun will rise with or without me.