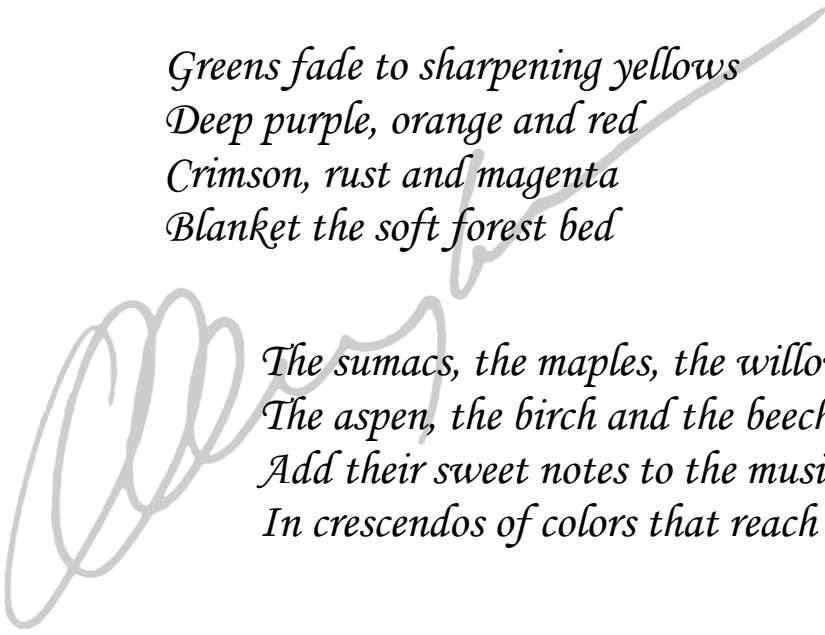


Autumn Leaves

*Lovely the leaves of the summer
Promising emeralds, darkening jades
Then the winds whisper of winter
And their beauties take on new shades*

*Greens fade to sharpening yellows
Deep purple, orange and red
Crimson, rust and magenta
Blanket the soft forest bed*



*The sumacs, the maples, the willows
The aspen, the birch and the beech
Add their sweet notes to the music
In crescendos of colors that reach*

*The heart and the mind through the senses
Lifting the spirit, exciting the soul
Revealing God in his cosmos
And by this humble man is made whole*

*Whole though the heart is made heavy
And though tears may come to the eye
At the beauty and wonder of nature
Even as we witness it die*