



Before I was myself you made me, me  
With love and patience, discipline and tears,  
Then bit by bit stepped back to set me free,

Allowing me to sail upon my sea,  
Though well within the headlands of your fears.  
Before I was myself you made me, me

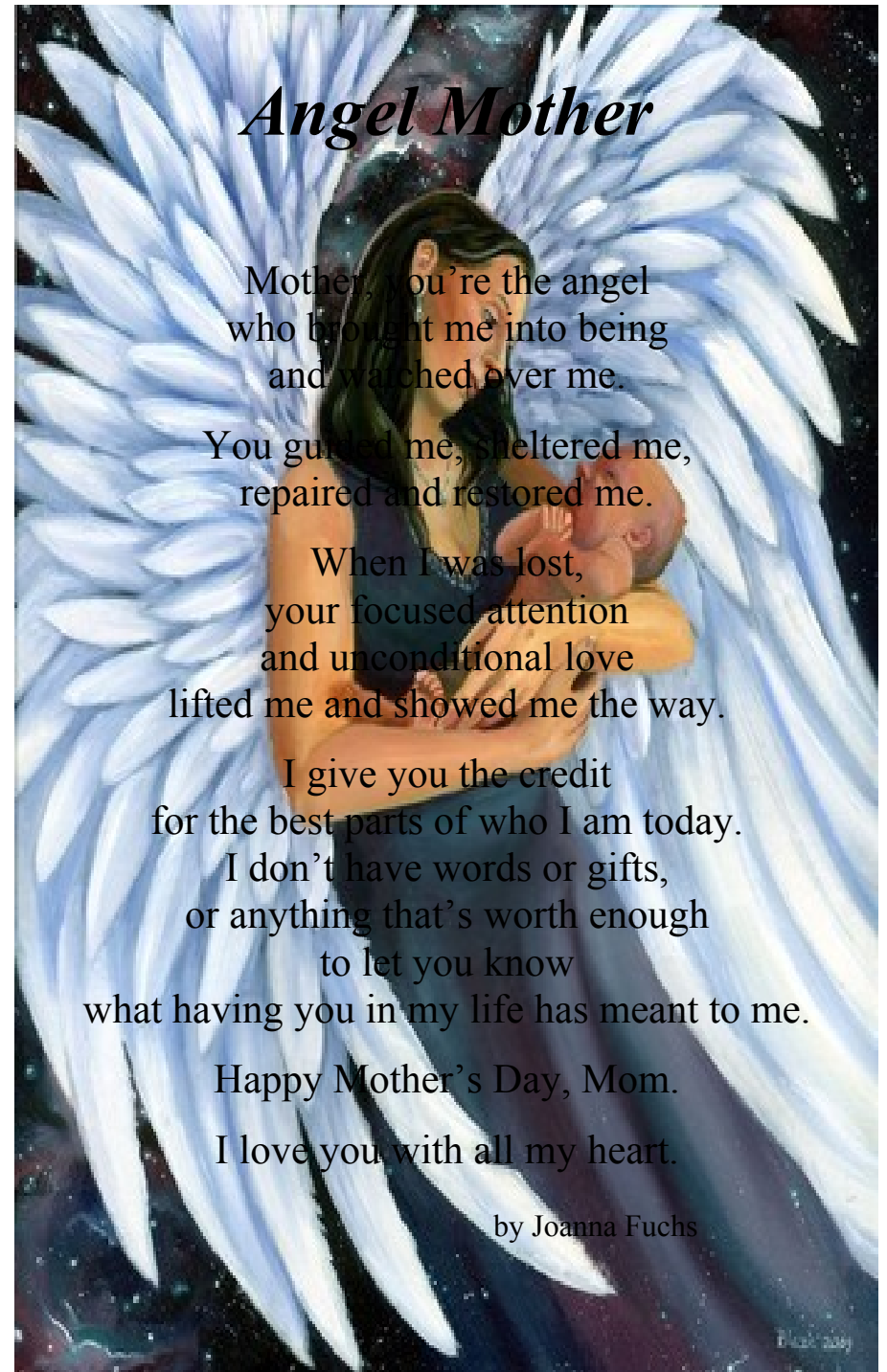
With dreams enough of what I was to be  
And hopes that would be sculpted by the years,  
Then bit by bit stepped back to set me free,

Relinquishing your powers gradually  
To let me shape myself among my peers.  
Before I was myself you made me, me,

And being good and wise, you gracefully  
As dancers when the last sweet cadence nears  
Bit by bit stepped back to set me free.

For love inspires learning naturally:  
The mind assents to what the heart reveres.  
And so it was through love you made me, me  
By slowly stepping back to set me free.

by Nicholas Gordon



## *Angel Mother*

Mother, you're the angel  
who brought me into being  
and watched over me.

You guided me, sheltered me,  
repaired and restored me.

When I was lost,  
your focused attention  
and unconditional love  
lifted me and showed me the way.

I give you the credit  
for the best parts of who I am today.

I don't have words or gifts,  
or anything that's worth enough  
to let you know  
what having you in my life has meant to me.

Happy Mother's Day, Mom.

I love you with all my heart.

by Joanna Fuchs

# Mother's Day Prayer

## United Methodist Book of Worship

For our mothers, who have given us life and love, that we may show them reverence and love, we pray to the Lord...

For mothers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends support and console them, we pray to the Lord...

For women, though without children of their own, who like mothers have nurtured and cared for us, we pray to the Lord...

For mothers, who have been unable to be a source of strength, who have not responded to their children and have not sustained their families, we pray to the Lord...

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you watch over your Church. Bless these women, that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



Happy  
Mother's  
Day