

I Speak for the Creek!

A poem for the Greenman Coloring Book by Brent Evans

Cibolo Center for Conservation

I'll give you just a little peek
Of how it was I came to speak
For all who fly or swim or creep
Or grow along this magic Creek.

Now you might think I really can't
Be a person AND a plant.
Well... here's why I pulled up my roots
And slipped them into hiking boots!

Before most people came to know
This place where children get to go
There were Mountain Lion, Bear,
And Buffalo -
The Explorers called them, "Cibolo."

Now all these animals are gone,
Gone somewhere else to sing their song.
Their habitat was in demand,
The humans needed so much land!

"Cibolo Valley is lost!" We feared...

Bt then, a group of Friends appeared.

They planted trees that would remain
And watered 'em with saved-up rain.

They helped the Prairie grasses grow.
They saved the Woods where the wild things go.

They worked to keep the Creekside clean
And let the Marsh be a Marsh again.

They used this place and used it well
For a kind of show and tell
Showing people how to care
For stuff like water, soil, and air.

"And so," I thought, "I'll do my part.
I know exactly where I'll start.
I'll tell the children, when outdoors,
To look for all the watch-out-fors."

I'll help the Friends to save more ground
Like that old railway they found,
Like the flood plain, like the farm,
Keeping some things safe from harm.

I'll ask each and every guest
To tread softly and act their best
To pick up litter and leash their dogs
And hush to hear the hymns of frogs.

I'll plant a dream deep in their heart
Of peaceful places set apart
Where nature lives on green and free
With elbow room for you and me.

And when all the people leave the park
And all the day returns to dark,
The Moon will wink at us below
And celebrate the Cibolo!

At the Farm the gardens grow,
Inch by inch, row by row.
We raise our chickens and harvest rain,
And Farmers Market lives again.

And "Nesting" in an ancient wood,
A little Nature school that could
Spark discovery and play,
And a Sense of Wonder, every day.

The GreenMan Coloring book was written and produced in 2003 by Brent Evans. This project has been a collaboration of folks of many different persuasions, united by a common passion for nature. These artists and volunteers want you to have copying privileges for the copyright-free coloring book.