

'Almost Home'

Acrylic on Masonite Panel by Artist Bob Renaud

Immediately one may draw the conclusion from reading the title and observing the scene that things are pretty clear. Two women have gathered grapes and are walking home at the day's end.

However, there is much more than meets the eye to this story. It's my feeling, that as parents we are responsible to give good counsel to our children. Much of the time this counsel is not to our children's liking – as can be detected by the younger girl's expression, who seems less than happy. Our ultimate goal is returning 'home' to Heaven and this should be reason enough for all parents to give solid advice to their children.

As I'm sure you'll agree, none of us are perfect. We, young and old alike, are called to leave our brokenness behind; as represented symbolically by the broken down farm equipment which the two women have just passed, left by the side of the road.

Notice too, the birds pictured in the sky. The two birds to the lower right echo the two main figures represented in the painting. We all have hopes of being numbered as one of God's Saints and joining His 'flock' in Heaven.

And finally, each Fall Season we prepare for the death of winter. But of course we are well aware of the rebirth and new life to be found each Spring. This is certainly God's promise too ~ that we will be made new again in the Springtime of Heaven. We need not despair but only realize that we are 'Almost Home'.