

## **CLOSING WORDS**

You can't be in two places at once. Or two times at once either. In our celebration of the dead today, we have not made a pilgrimage to the past. Rather, we have invited a present visitation from those who ARE the past. They are here to visit today, not to dwell. We share our festival with them not to exhume what must be let go of, but rather, to refresh recollection, and to keep alive what must be held onto and passed along. And so the veil between the living and the dead descends once more. We bid farewell until next time, with the echoes of their affecting voices ringing in our ears.