

God, the Great I AM

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TO YAHWEH, who breathed life into my very frame,
whose love and kindness carried me on my journey
and kept me on my way.
My prayer is that Your children truly know they
are created in Your image,
fearfully and wonderfully made.
May you be glorified.

To my late mother **JUNE HAYES JOHNSON**;
I carry your love and freckles wherever I go.
I aspire to your boldness and unshakable joy.
Your resilience taught me I can always begin again.

With special thanks to **JEVON BOLDEN**,
who helped me keep hope alive,
because writing is a faith journey.

Look above at the silver and gold stars

I scattered across the sky

I AM...

I am the one who spread the seas

far and wide and deep

I separated land from water

to give the islands their space

I AM...

I am the first and the last, like the letters A and Z

I alone can create something
where there was nothing

I AM...

I am in the midst of the winter blizzard

where the wind howls and blows

I AM...

I am the one who sends the warm summer breeze
sweeping through the weeping willow's leaves

I make the firefly glow and give the bumblebee its sting

I set the eagle on the mountaintop
and place the rabbit in the field
providing each its home

I AM...

I am the giver of all good things

I bring the autumn harvest, full of apples,
pomegranates, and pears

I AM...

I am a promise-keeper through every season, every change

I invite my children to talk to me about anything

I AM...

I am everywhere at once—high and low
and in between

I watch you through the midnight hours
as you dream sweet dreams

There is never a place you can go without me
And I will never leave

I AM...

I am the divine designer
of the rainbow
and the waterfall

I decided strawberries would be red
and blueberries would be blue

And best of all . . .

I shaded people in magnificent
varieties of brown, with melanin in every hue

I AM...

I am the one that put you snug
in your mother's belly

I set in place every freckle,
every dimple, every spot

I numbered all the hairs on your head
coily, curly, and straight—beautiful in every way

Before the beginning of time
I knew you

I AM...

I am the God who can do anything
and all I do is good

I am the God who works mighty wonders
for all the world to see

Place your hope in me
and I will show you

I AM WHO I AM

I AM . . .

*I am the God of gods and Lord of lords
and my love will last forever
I created you for a reason
with a special purpose*

From the shimmering moon to crashing waves to the fanciful creatures that fill the seas and trees, God reveals Himself through His creation, including *you*! Meet the powerful, never-changing, everywhere-at-once **God, the great I AM** who takes care of the whole world and wants to be your one-of-a-kind Friend.

Sydney Ann Johnson, poet and writer from Long Island, New York, is on a mission to help children grasp just how precious they are in God's sight.

Thaís Mesquita loves bringing words to life through pictures. Inspired by her beloved homeland, she celebrates Brazil's magical energy and warm colors in her artwork.