

## **The Sonoran Desert**

**Written by Erika Matteo**

**Narrated by Bruce Nash**

As the crimson sun sets behind stately saguaros  
The desert sings in shades of red and orange and purple.  
All that slept through heat of day  
Awaken to the night.

Underneath a star-filled sky  
Hidden wonders abound  
As insects and animals scurry  
To find their fuel for another day's survival.

As morning dawns upon the desert  
Songs of birds echo through canyon walls.  
Plants turn their leaves to be fed by the sun  
And life fills dry land that should be barren.

The Spirit of the desert is life.  
Against all odds of dryness and heat  
Plants and animals thrive  
In the most surprising ways.

As grey clouds gather in the sky  
Heavy with the promise of rain  
The desert breathes a sigh of anticipation  
And the drops begin to fall.

Waters flowing, rushing, roaring  
Through arroyos once parched and cracked  
Water courses through the desert lands  
Bringing life, and bringing hope.

Barren not that long ago,  
The land blossoms now with green.  
Plants and animals alike -  
Renewed.

Home to cacti, mesquite, and bursage  
Home to bats, javelina, and kangaroo rats  
The desert has other dwellers too.  
Centuries of humans also made it home.

The canyon walls and mountains  
Rock outcrops and mesa tops  
Have seen the lives of many pass  
And hold their secrets tight.

Come explore the Sonoran Desert  
And see some mysteries revealed  
Of how life can thrive in this place  
Where it seems so hard to survive.

Beneath Saguaro's outstretched arms  
Sit and breathe the solitude.  
The desert is alive around you  
What song will the desert sing to you?