

*Paige Powell Music Blog for November 3, 2020:*

## *The Story Behind the Song, "The New Cool Wind"*

**Oh, how I love Autumn!** The best part of the season is the leaves that are so brilliant after they have turned orange, yellow, or red. To me, they are just as spectacular as the flowering trees in the Spring. Some individual trees have caused me to exclaim, "Wow!!" and they are the shining stars of this season. When I was employed as a **graphic artist in Silver Spring, Maryland**, I would collect them on my way to work. My coworkers thought I was crazy, but some of the fall leaves were too compelling to leave on the sidewalk. I remember one maple leaf in particular: It had ALL the colors: red, orange, yellow and green, **all in one leaf**. In the photo above, I'm wearing one as an earring!\*



One of my fantasies is to **make a dress from autumn leaves**, perhaps in Heaven, since there would be no way to do that here on earth. God would give me special glue and make the leaves stay pliable and retain their golden colors. Then, I would help other women make dresses from leaves. Hey, it all started with Eve and the fig leaves, right?

*"The New Cool Wind"* is just as light as a leaf carried away by an Autumn breeze. The song's lightness is attributed to the absence of any bass, and the addition of **flute**, performed beautifully by **Yvonne LaParl**. The guitar takes a back seat this time to **piano**, played wonderfully by **Karen Loffler McLaren**. It was recorded way back in 1987, during **my first experiences** recording in a professional recording studio. So I know *"The New Cool Wind"* was written before then, and I think I wrote it when I was in college. Even then, I loved the changing, mysterious season that is sometimes warm, sometimes cold, and always inspiring.

One day, I was walking through a collection of **dry, brown leaves** and right after hearing their **crisp swishes and crunches**, I thought of the line, *"crunching like cornflakes until it's snowing"*. Next, I thought of foods and beverages we attribute to hot or cold weather, and the clothes we bring out of storage: *"Coffee and pancakes replace lemonade. It's time for the woolens and brown suede"*. In the third verse, I thought of our perceptions of the seasons, including the scientific, *"the earth tilting up."* Or if we think of the seasons as a circle, *"Around and around, or just back and forth"*. In the end, we *"bundle up"* but *"face the new cool wind"* on our faces. Although we experienced it last year, **it seems new** because it is such a change from the summer weather.

Thank you, dear reader, for listening. If you love Autumn as much as I do, be sure to hear *"Indian Summer Love,"* a song I co-wrote with fellow songwriter, **Robbin Ahrold** (click <https://music.amazon.co.uk/albums/B08KYG52SM>, and then song #5). **Thanksgiving** is coming soon, my all-time favorite holiday, so I'll be featuring my songs about it next time. Please do stay safe. Several people in my family have gotten the COVID-19 Coronavirus and they said it was so bad that they thought they were going to die, for real. Thank God they recovered!

\* Yes, through the magic of Adobe Photoshop.