

When She Climbs

"Success is a journey, not a destination"

Felix Lugo

When she climbs, many hands help to pull her
up, and she pauses on her way to aid many
in their turn. Clouds part before her clear eyes;
her calm and lovely voice casts no spell
but that of reason and knowledge won
from hard work, long study, and experience.
It's a long journey, but not without joy,
mingled with sweat and strain, vision and a keen
drive to serve. Nobody takes this trip alone
or travels such steep and narrow roads
with empty hands. Come and climb with her.
The best guides know the sharp sting of stones,
the depth of gorges far below, and that this
journey winds without ending, far beyond our sight.

By Steve Klepetar (a close friend of the President's for more years than they care to count!)

Read at the Inaugural Ceremony by Adam Klepetar