

The Bird That Dared to Sing

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(Written in the style of Emily Dickinson)

The fluttering of tiny wings
that none were sure they heard –
a little thing perched by the Road –
a little, tiny Bird.

This little Bird just cocked her head
and watched with great intent –
the Fraud, the Cheat, the Thief, the Poor,
the Man with Spirit bent.

And as she watched – she saw a Shade –
It flitted past the Men –
a little Boy running from
the inevitable Sin.

She wondered at this little one
that dared to brave this land –
he – running through this world of
Night –
a Candle taking a stand.

The little Bird observed his trek –
She fluttered to a lamp
that arched above the small Boy's head
as he sat in the damp.

She saw a fragile trembling hand
slip into a coat pocket –
She saw a chain of silver thin
that ended in a Locket.

Now opened he the tiny door
that hid his secret small
and peering at the Photograph
he let a teardrop fall.

The curious can't be denied –
The Bird flew closer still –
until she sat upon the bench
where the Boy was resting – ill.

She looked up at the Photograph
and saw a smiling Boy
and a woman with a man
all – beaming – full of joy.

The Boy inside the Photograph
bore likeness to the child –
the child who sat beside the Bird
and dared this forest wild.

But now the Bird saw more upon
the folded page he held –
In tender script this message did
the curving letters spell –

"May life forever bring you joy
and wonders new and bold –
Mother – Father – with Love to you
May ne'er your heart be cold."

"The Dead can't feel the Living's pain" –
he whispered to the night –
as he released another tear –
and gazed up at the light –

But looking down – he spied the Bird
as she in wonder sat
and marveled at this little Boy
who bore such a grief as that.

He smiled at the little Bird
who looked right back at him
and calmly hopped toward the Boy
whose hope and light were dim.

Now she did tell a Secret small
that she had buried deep
and so this little Bird released
a Note for him to keep –