

Chair Bear

Poetic Learning for the Young



by Cindy Lee Scott

Chair Bear

A Child's Journey into Verse

by
Cindy Lee Scott

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MQIPress

Frost, West Virginia
303 Mountain Quest Lane, Marlinton, WV 24954
United States of America
Telephone: 304-799-7267
eMail: alex@mountainquestinstitute.com
www.mountainquestinstitute.com
www.mountainquestinn.com

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Preface

When my children were small, from infancy to adulthood, I took great pleasure in watching them grow up to become the people they are today. Those years are seared into my memory causing my heart to burst with joy when I ponder on those previous moments.

I was constantly and consistently looking for new ways to teach my children all about the wonders that were awaiting them. I needed to make learning as interesting and entertaining as possible. Small children have a short attention span and are difficult to teach. I had to learn to be patient and to take my time and make learning fun. If the kids got frustrated, it was time to stop.

I discovered one of the ways that learning was fun was through poetry and reading them stories. So I began writing children's poems and even writing down the stories that would come up. Hence, "The Chair Bear" came into existence.

May you and your children enjoy these together.

Gindy Lee Scott



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1. The Alphabet

Alphabet Reading Key

A B C D E F G

Won't you come and play with me?

H I J K L M N

You can let me know just when.

O P Q R S T U

We've got lots of things to do!

V, W, X, and then Z

It's an Alphabet Reading Key.



GAME:

Find the
two extra
letters ...

ANSWER:
There is an
extra "I" and
an extra "T".



Write my name so I can see
How it's spelled and looks to me.
As I learn to write each letter
My name will start to look better.
Then I will write a note to you
To show you all that I can do.

Alphabet Word Rhyme

Aa is for All, Apple and Apron
Bb is for Bee, Baby and Bacon
Cc is for Cake, City and Cat
Dd is for Dog, Dance and Drat
Ee is for Egg, Eagle and Eat
Ff is for Fun, Full and Feet
Gg is for Gum, Giant and Go
Hh is for Hamster, Happy and Hole
Ii is for Ice, Inch and ill
Jj is for Jump, Jam and Jill
Kk is for Kitten, Know and Kite
Ll is for Little, Lamp and Light
Mm is for Moon, Milk and Mice
Nn is for Noodle, Nap and Nice
Oo is for Open, Owl and Out
Pp is for Pig, Pumpkin and Pout
Qq is for Quiet, Queen and Quiver
Rr is for Run, Road and River
Ss is for Silly, Sun, and Slow
Tt is for Ten, Two and Toe
Uu is for Up Uncle and Umbrella
Vv is for Van, Vest and Vanilla
Ww is for Wagon, Wall and Way
Xx is for Xylophone, Extra and X-ray
Yy is for Yellow, Yams and You
Zz is for Zebra, Zero, and Zoo



GAME:

Find a rhyming word for each of the following:

1. Bee
2. Know
3. Moon
4. Run
5. Ten

SOME ANSWERS:

1. Fee, free, gee, he, key, knee, lee, me, see, tea, tee, we
2. Bow, doe, foe, go, know, low, mow, no, row, sew, sow, toe
3. Boon, coon, dune, June, loon, noon, tune, soon
4. Bun, done, fun, gun, hon, none, pun, run, son, sun, ton, won
5. Bin, den, men, pen, pin, tin, win

Vowels

They are “A, E, I, O, U” and sometimes “W” and “Y”.

Let’s see what happens when two vowels say hi.

When brought together, the first vowel makes a long sound,

The second is silent, not wanting to be found.



Whenever two vowels go bumping together,
Kept apart by one, not mattering whichever,
One reaches over and makes the other long,
Although sometimes this rule can be wrong.

Changing sounds this way seems like quite a feat.

Like magic, changing the word “set” to the word “seat”

Or, separated by one letter, “can” can turn to “cane”

And the individual “Dan” becomes a Great “Dane”.



Changing words with bumping vowels can be fun,

You go and try some now like we have begun.

c o d	add an “e”	=	c o d e
d a m	add an “e”	=	d a m e
b a t	add an “o”	=	b o a t
t o	add an “e”	=	t o e
p a n	add an “i”	=	p a i n
p e t	add an “a”	=	p e a t
t o n	add an “e”	=	t o n e
b i t	add an “a”	=	b a i t
S a m	add an “e”	=	s a m e
c a t	add an “o”	=	c o a t
s i t	add an “u”	=	s u i t



“A” is the first letter of the alphabet.
 Make a large triangle without a bottom yet.
 Put the bottom line about in the middle.
 Let us make a big A using a riddle.

Little “a” is a half-circle with a line.
 Put a line down on the right if you don’t mind.
 Now you have the small letter “a”, that’s very good.
 You can use it whenever you think you should.

An “a” can be used for so very many words,
 Like an apple, apron, or acorns for the bird.
 Airplane, alligator, and alphabet play,
 Together we’ll see how many we can say.



Let’s talk about the big letter B,
 One straight line and a backwards three.
 Now lay it on its back and see
 What looks like camel humps to me.

Then let’s take the small letter b,
 A straight line with a backwards c.
 Flip that backwards and you will see
 What looks like the number nine to me.

Big B, little b, can you see
 How easy making B, b can be?
 It’s a line with curves, write with me.
 You’ve learned to make the letter B!



Let’s talk about the big letter D,
 A straight line down, and a backwards C.
 Lay it on its back, look and see
 What looks like a half circle to me.

Then there is the small letter d,
 Straight line down with a backwards c.
 Turned upside down, what would it be?
 Yes, you’re right, it’s the letter P.

Big, D, small d, what starts with d:
 Dolls, drums, and my friend Demetre.
 Now see how easy it can be
 To write the big and small letter D?



The letter O is fun to write.
 Let’s make ours big and round and bright.
 What can we do with our O now?
 Imagination can teach us how.

Let’s give it a nose and some eyes
 With a curved mouth of a large size.
 See what we’ve made for you and me?
 A happy face, as you can see.

To write the big and small letter O?

B C D E G P T V Z



Alphabet Letters Ending with the Sound of EE

Perch and bounce the lips open,
Together say letter “B”.
Clinching your teeth together,
Now hiss out the letter “C”.

Tongue on the roof of your mouth,
Then bounce off the sound of “D”.
Mouth open and lips pulled back,
We can make the sound of “E”.

Press the tongue against closed teeth
While voicing the letter “G”.
Then bouncing our lips together,
You bring forth the letter “P”.

Click tongue off the roof of mouth,
Smile and say the letter “T”.
Then upper teeth on lower lip,
You vibrate the letter “V”.

Here we go, last but not least,
We’re at the end, you see,
With your tongue against closed teeth,
Let’s bee buzz the letter “Z”.

These are alphabet letters,
Ending with the sound of EE.
Thank you for making the sounds,
And chanting along with me.

Read to Me



You read my books to me every single day.
Over and over, reading them the same way.
Pointing to pictures was exciting, you see,
It meant so much, all those books read to me.

And as I was growing and learning how to read,
Every time you read to me you planted a seed.
The plant was watered, nurtured as I grew up,
Like an unquenched thirst from an ever-filling cup.

You gave us lots of toys with which we could play,
But reading books was a special part of my day.
Holding me so close while sitting in your lap,
And reading at night and before my noon nap.

Someday when I can read as well as you do,
I will read and share with someone special too.
With many good memories of the days when
Every single day you read to me back then

2. Numbers

Adding One

One plus one is two
Just like me and you.
Two plus one is three
That sounds right to me.
Three plus one is four
Just count up one more.
Four plus one is five
When will we arrive?
Five plus one is six
We are in a fix.
Six plus one is seven
Does it feel like heaven?
Seven plus one is eight
Let's pass through the gate.
Eight plus one is nine
We are all just fine.
Nine plus one is ten
Count and add again.

$$1 + 1 = 2$$

$$2 + 1 = 3$$

$$3 + 1 = 4$$

$$4 + 1 = 5$$

$$5 + 1 = 6$$

$$6 + 1 = 7$$

$$7 + 1 = 8$$

$$8 + 1 = 9$$

$$9 + 1 = 10$$

Count and Clap

Count one two three four five,
Waiting here for you to arrive.
Six seven eight nine ten,
Altogether, let's count a-gain.



Counting again, one two three ...
This waiting is hard for me.
Let's all chant four five six,
And kick around a few more sticks.



Last, seven eight nine ten.
If you're coming, please tell me when?
I'll wait in this place
And keep on searching for your face.



RIDDLE

*Now tell me, what will never end?
Turning, curving round and round.
Feels like going around a bend,
But never makes a single sound.*

*It's used in many different ways
To make so very many things
Like wheels and lids and cups on trays,
And cans and pies and finger rings.*

*Can be large, small, big or little,
Can be blue, red, even purple.
Here's the answer to our riddle:
The "0", a zero, or a circle.*

A riddle is like a fun puzzle that you solve with your mind. It's a question or a statement that has a hidden meaning, and you have to think carefully to figure out the answer. It's a bit like a game where you need to think outside the box to find the secret answer! Sure!

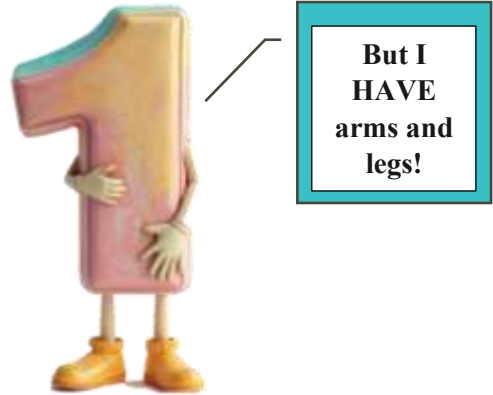
Example: What has keys but can't open locks? **Answer:** A piano!

Example: What has to be broken before you can use it? **Answer:** An egg!

Number One

This number comes first, look and see,
It stands alone like you and me.
Take a pencil and make a mark,
It can be tall, short, light or dark.

The number one draws up or down,
Stands up tall without a frown.
No arms, no legs, it stands up straight,
It's first in line and does not wait.



Number Same Game

Count right shoe, then left shoe,
One plus one equals two.
Your shoes plus mine are more,
Two plus two equals four.

Apple and orange fruits mix,
Three plus three equals six.
Let's line up, count, and wait,
Four plus four equals eight.

Answer and then count again,
Five, plus five equals ten.



Number Three

Draw an oval, cut it in half,
Place one on top of the other.
Keep the open side to the left,
Come and see what I've made, mother.

It is such a clever thing I've done,
Can you come and see with me?
It's time to take a look and guess,
Oh, yes, I've made the number three!



Five Finger Play

One for you,
Two for me,
Three for all,
Come and see.

5

Five. Another!

I'm so glad.
1 through 5
All closed up
Like a beehive.



Count and Run

One. Get ready to run.
Two. Catching up with you.
Three. Come run fast with me.
Four. We can run some more.
Five. Fun to be alive.
Six. Lost and in a fix.
Seven. Almost to heaven.
Eight. Just beyond the gate.
Nine. Look over the vine.
Ten. We're at home again.



ADDING MAGICIAN

One plus one equals two
 Just starting, we're not through.
 Two plus two equals four
 Now sit down on the floor.
 Three plus three equals six
 I'll show you awesome tricks.
 Four plus four equals eight
 We do not have to wait.
 Five plus five equals ten
 Let's do that trick again.

Six plus six equals twelve
 Using the counting shells.
 Seven plus seven is fourteen
 Here's a trick you've not seen.
 Eight plus eight is sixteen
 Color the shells dark green.
 Nine plus nine is eighteen
 Now put them on a string.
 Ten plus ten is twenty
 That's counting a-plenty!

Twenty is a Special Number

The number 20 is a very special number! It's like a magical milestone that means you're getting good at numbers because you can count all the way up to two whole groups of ten. When you're playing games, reaching 20 points can mean you're winning and having tons of fun!



In school, when you learn to add and multiply, 20 is an important number that helps you understand how numbers work together. Plus, it's neat to think about special things happening, like when your class counts 20 days of perfect attendance or when you collect 20 stickers on your chart. It's definitely a number worth celebrating!

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

3. Discovering ME

YOU and ME

Here's my mouth, my eyes, and my nose
These are your hands, fingers and toes
Look at my forehead, hair and chin
Point to your knees, your calves and shin.

Pat your head and rub your tummy
Oh my, we look really funny
Yes, my arm connects to my thumb
Which I need to eat, "Yum, yum, yum".

These are our legs on which we walk,
These are my lips that help me talk.
Here's my teeth which I use to bite
These are my eyes that give me sight.

See my foot that's touching the ground,
My shoulders make the arms go round.
I use elbows to lift you high
I can kiss your cheek when you cry.

This is my neck for getting hugs.
Here's your back, look out! Tickle bugs.
See my eyebrows go up and down
And these ears are for hearing sound.

We need our wrist to move our hand,
And our ankles on which we stand.
Now that you know the parts of you,
Let's go on and learn something new.



Right Hand, Left Hand

Right hand, left hand, can you see
That your left is right to me?
Right foot, left foot, can it be.
Just turn around, that's the key.



Which is right and which is left?

Right hand, left hand, only two
Do the same thing that I do.
My right's your left, this is true,
When I stand in front of you.



Different from Me?



Are you so very different than me?
We don't look the same, you see
How we act and what we do
That is the real me and you.

Are you always accepting and kind?
Look inside, see what you find
Past all that stuffy outside pride,
What's is real is on the inside.

Looking from where I can see
You're not so very
different from me.

I Can Dress Myself

I want to dress myself, now you see,
So, I can pick whatever suits me.
My dresser is full of clothes that match,
Ones in the closet I can pull and catch.

I can find my own shoes and my socks
In the closet in the big sock box.
What is it you cannot always see
That what pleases you doesn't always please me.

So many different colors of socks,
I pull out two colors from the box.
I do like these purple checkered pants
And my striped shirt with the bears that dance.

Like these clothes they're a comfortable fit,
They do not hang and pull when I sit.
Now, don't you get upset, for you see
What pleases you doesn't always please me.



I Can Tie My Shoes

Take two shoe laces and hold them straight.
Then cross them over. Hold on, just wait.
Make an X with the strings and here's why:
Loop one under the other, the tie.

Now you're only halfway there you know.
Take the first string, then make a looped bow.
Wrap the second string around the first one.
It get's easier. Let's make it fun.

Place your finger on the other string.
Move it to the center of the thing.
Push it on through to the other side,
Grab both bows, pull them apart wide.

So, you see, it's not so hard to do.
Tying first one, then the other shoe.
Come watch me tie my shoes and you'll see
It's just as easy as one, two, three!



Brush Your Teeth

Now, if you want to eat
Something so good and sweet
Brush your teeth.

You want food that's chewy
Something sweet and gooey
Brush your teeth.

Tonight after you eat
When you are tired and beat
Brush your teeth.



The morning when you wake
Attention, for goodness sake
Brush your teeth.

If you chew chewing bum
Even if only some
Brush your teeth.

Cavities stay away
Give a big smile today
And brush your teeth.

The daycare is a place we like to come.
 Little critters running, just having fun.
 Some doing that, and others doing this,
 Busy, not thinking, about who we miss.

Daycare

Eating a breakfast, a
 lunch and a snack.
 Drawing with red,
 yellow, blue or black.
 Sometimes we take
 the shoes off our feet
 While we are
 watching ole Sesame
 Street.

Time for a nap, and
 then back up to play.
 That's some of the
 fun during our day.
 By the time you meet
 me at the front door,
 I'm ready to go home
 and play some more.



Snack Time

We need a snack during this time of day.
 I'm getting hungry. I've been hard at play.
 Apples, oranges, berries, bananas and pear,
 Crackers, nuts, and raisins are here to share.
 It is good when it's time to snack on these.
 Remember to say "thank you", also please.

Healthy foods are good, helping us to grow.
 Candy, cakes and chips, a definite "no".
 Good foods, using energy when hard at play,
 And it keeps us going through the whole day.
 So, carrot sticks, celery, veggies and cheese
 Are the kind of snacks we need, if you please.

Running this way
Running that way
Sugar Gremlins
Go at it all day



Wake up to go
Sleep, they say "No!"
The Gremlins say
It is not so



Gremlins are here
Gremlins are there
Look and see them
They are everywhere



They want to eat
Only what's sweet
They say good food
Is not a real treat.



Gremlins are here
Gremlins are there
Look and see them
They are everywhere



Brush your teeth.

Going Up, Coming Down

Outside, I looked up and what did I see?
A leaf falling down from a great big tree.
Back up it goes with a push from the wind,
Then down it falls with a twirl and a bend.

Oh leaf, can you tell me, how does it feel
Going up, down and around like a wheel,
Spinning and turning, going to and fro,
First way up high, then floating down low?



I wish I could go flying, just like you.
Floating in the wind, doing what you do.
Wish I could sway back-and-forth in the breeze.
Now tell me your secret? Would you please?

Months of the Year

Happy
New Year



January begins with a New Year's day
February is Valentines, love's on its way!
March brings the awaited first day of Spring
April is Earth's awakening that showers bring.
May's flowering fragrances fill the air
June ushers in stylish summer wear
July begins with fireworks, shared with a friend
August sees vacations coming to an end
September, now cooler, Fall has begun
October makes falling leaves lots of fun
November's for giving thanks for being here,
December is a time for love and good cheer.

4. At Play ...

Breakfast in the Morning

Every morning when I first wake up,
I run to get my bowl and cup.
I'm just so very hungry, you see,
I call out to you to come help me.

You come to the kitchen half asleep
And pour my cereal in a big heap
Watching you with a spoon in my hand,
I see flying flakes fall and land.

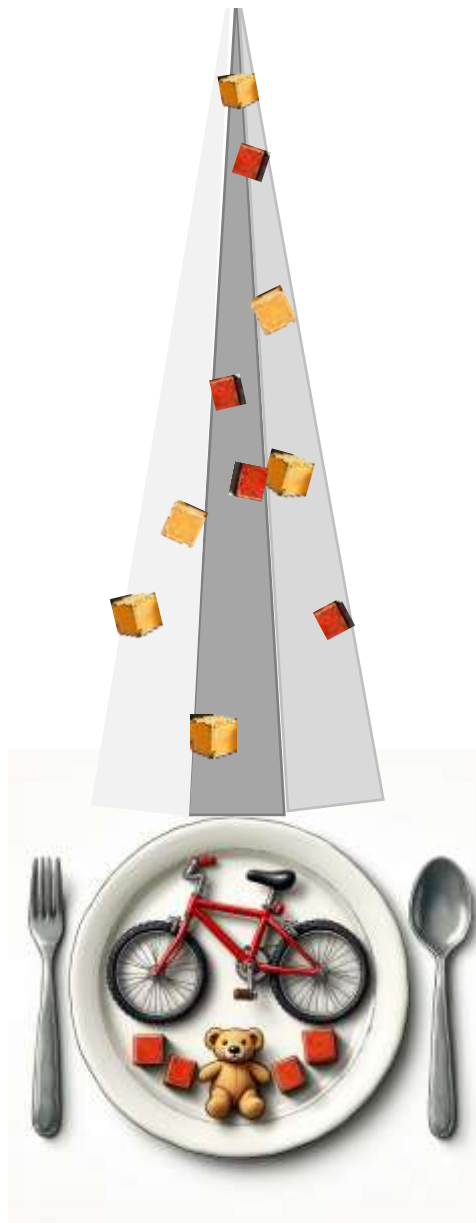
You pour the milk in my bowl with ease.
I say, can I have some sugar please?
Slice some fruit & make butter toast.
Can I have the juice I like the most?

When I am through, I clean up my mess.
I asked to be excused, you say yes.
I guess it goes on without saying,
It's time to start a day of playing!

Riding My Bike

Although I am just a little tike,
I really like to ride my bike.
Peddling so fast, I can't see my feet,
I just barely can stay in my seat.

Around in circles or straight in line,
Starting and stopping till eating time.
Can hardly sit still, before you know,
Out the door again, here I go!



KINDERGARTEN

Can't wait for the kindergarten bell
To have fun, listen, learn and play.
Today we get to have show-and-tell.
I wish we could have it every day.

Then comes the circle at story time,
Reading when the teacher calls my name.
Writing in a workbook that is mine,
Matching two pictures that are the same.

I like playtime and going outside,
Even the time I must rest my head.
Then dance and name with eyes open wide:
Numbers, letters, and colors like red.

It is time to wake up, every day.
Hurry up, dress and eat, then at last
I arrive at school to learn and play.
All too soon, the day goes by too fast!



Fred the Cake

Would you like to meet my friend Fred the Cake,
He will greet you with a big smile.
Whether you're tired, sleepy or wide awake,
Fred will visit you for a while.

Now, if you thought you'd like to be his friend,
Too late, because someone just ate Fred.
A knife brought him to such a dreadful end,
It's so very sad that Fred is now dead!
Now I want a piece of cake ...



THE HIP-PITY HOP STORY

My three girls were all still young enough that they still liked to play. Almost every year when they were small, we would buy them a bouncy ball. These balls look like exercise balls with handles. The heavy duty large rubber balls were brightly colored. Children could sit on the ball holding onto the handles and bounce around the room.

Each of the girls would receive a different color. Invariably someone would play with them where there were sharp objects and, of course, the ball would get a leak. There was only one ball left from the holidays and it belonged to my youngest daughter. The middle child loves bouncing and didn't see her sister around anywhere. She began bouncing with jubilee through the living room and into the kitchen. Younger sister saw her and demanded that she give back her bouncy ball! The older sister said, "I'm playing with it now, and kept on bouncing even higher." Little sis yelled "That's mine!" and grabbed the ball just as her sister was airborne at that weightless moment. Down she came and landed right on her butt!

Parenting can be quite challenging at times.

Hippity Hop

Hippity hop, hippity hop,
Bouncing up and down, zoom!
Hippity hop, hippity hop,
Bouncing all around the room.

Hippity hop, hippity hop,
Bouncing up, way up high,
Hippity hop, Hippity hop,
It feels just like I can fly.

Hippity hop, hippity hop,
My sister wants her ball.
Hippity hop, hippity hop,
It's my turn after all.

Hippity hop, hippity hop,
My sister grabs the ball!
Hippity hop, hippity hop,
Such a horrible fall.

No more hippity hop, hop
My butt it hurts so bad.
No more hippity hop, hop
My sister made me mad.

No more hippity hop, hop
It took a while to mend,
No more hippity hop, hop
Never do that again.

Hippity hop, hippity hop.

Hallway Play

I like to race up and down my hall,
Although I know it is very small.
I hear my mother yell, "Don't do that!"
It wouldn't be fun if I just sat.

So up and down the hall we go,
Just playing games that we all know
From racing cars to piloting a plane,
We know we can't go out in the rain.

We're in the house and it's time to play
Can't go outside on a cold rainy day,
From rolling balls, or hand and knee race,
The hallway is certainly the place.



Play Time

My friends and I like to play
With lots of different colors of clay.
We go and play with a two-headed
dragon,
But I really wish we had a wagon.

I like to play with bristle blocks
And animal rummy cards in a box.
When playtime is over, I am sad.
When I go outside, I am glad.

Becky Hoefer
May 14, 19889
(6 years old)



Daisy, Daisy

Daisy, Daisy, How do you do?
I'm just crazy
Falling, in love with you.

Kitty, kitty, Please play with me
You're so pretty
Mewing, just let me be.

Kit cat, kit cat, Will you please stay
It's not just that.
Really, I want to play

Bridge:

Come to me, me, me, me,
Be with me, me, me, me,
Stay with me, me, me, me,
Play with me, me, me, me.



Teeter Totter

Teeter totter up,
Teeter totter down.
Go up in the air
Landing on the ground.

Oh what fun it is
To ride and to play
On the big see-saw
Each and every day.

We begin down low,
Then go way up high.
When we close our eyes
We can touch the sky.

On and on we ride.
Way up high we go,
Coming down so fast,
Way down very low.

Teeter totter up,
Teeter totter down.
First up in the air,
Then back on the ground.

Twisted Tongues

Start SLOW

Silly sing songs bringing
Some sitting sideways singing
Random swell bells now ringing
Swooping swallows are winging

Hanna Cabana pajamas
Banished Banner Bananas
Bumbling Beguiled Brianna
Jilted Jittery Johanna

Wacky wiggly winding worms
Finally finding fickle ferns
Each tenderly taking turns
Gingerly digesting germs

Up Up Up the camel's hump
Falling freely with a thump
My bitty bungling bump
Eager Eddie's sitting stump

Then SPEED UP!!!

Better Bitter Baby Bite
Larry's Merry Cherry Flight
Cuddly Carry's cute cool kite
Fatally fast falling from sight

Finding families in a fix
Cleverly cloning clan clicks
Sam's silly sloppy sticks
Ted Tanks telling times two tricks

The Ruby Red Car

Little Harold wanted a real car for his Birthday, a red one. He spent his nights wishing and dreaming about having a little car that he could actually drive that ran on batteries. He talked about it to his parents frequently, but he received the same response over and over ... “A motorized car is very expensive!” Then his parents would ask: “How about a baseball glove or a transformer or maybe even a Spider Man figure?” Little Harold’s response was always the same. It had to be a red car that runs by itself with batteries. Then his parents always responded the same way. “We’ll see.” That wasn’t very encouraging and he knew his parents well.

Little Harold finally gave up after asking and asking—what seemed like forever—and told his parents that whatever they wanted to get him for his birthday was okay. He would be fine with what they chose for him. Little Harold had come to the realization that his parents didn’t have the money for such an expensive toy, and he was learning how to be happy and gracious with what he already owned. He felt like a big boy now, he thought to himself ... but his dreams of having a little red car that ran on batteries never stopped

Time went on and Little Harold’s birthday finally was here and he was so excited. Momma had been in the kitchen all that morning making a special birthday cake just for him; after all, he was her baby. “Mama, Mama, am I gonna have birthday candles too? He exclaimed in an excited voice. “Of course, Harold, it wouldn’t be a birthday without candles.” He was growing up and would soon be starting school. Little Harold was trying verry hard to play the part.

Moma has also invited some friends over with children around his same age. What a fun party this was gonna be! There would be a Bouncy House, pin the tail on the donkey and some magic tricks just to name a

few things. “I’m such a lucky boy to have parents that would go all out for my birthday” he thought to himself. Truly, he was becoming a big boy.

The other parents began to show up with children around his age, and they were having great fun with all the stuff there was to do. There was even a piñata with lots of candy inside! Everyone screamed as they scrambled for the candy. Then came time to light up the birthday cake. Ok, what a happy day Little Harold was having, but the best was yet to come. As he was blowing out his birthday cake, out of the corner of his eye, he saw something big coming out of the house ... could it be? Could it be? It was!

A little ruby red car came into view. Oh, it was so beautiful! A beautiful ruby red car. He just couldn’t believe his eyes! Tears were beginning to run down his face. He held them back as best he could because he was a big boy, but they came anyway. Harold’s parents were pleased to see Little Harold so happy. His mom said how proud they were. “We were so pleased that you didn’t throw tantrums and you were OK if we couldn’t buy you the car. You’ve grown into such a kind and gracious boy We love you so much.”



[Continued] Little Harold didn't even eat a piece of cake He just ran towards that Ruby Red car. "I'm the luckiest kid in the whole world" Little Harold shouted!

That night Little Harold dreamed of all the many adventures he would have in his Ruby Red car. And that goes to show you that dreams really do come true. It can happen to you. And it did!

[Stay tuned for "The Adventures of Little Harold and the Red Ruby Car.]

More Twisted Tongues

Slipped slippery slope side slide sledding

Laughing loons linger in lofty
lagoons ... Soon broom goons
loom in tombs

Cute witty itty bitty pretty kitty
from silly city

Minnie Marble
married a might
mysterious tan fan
man Sam

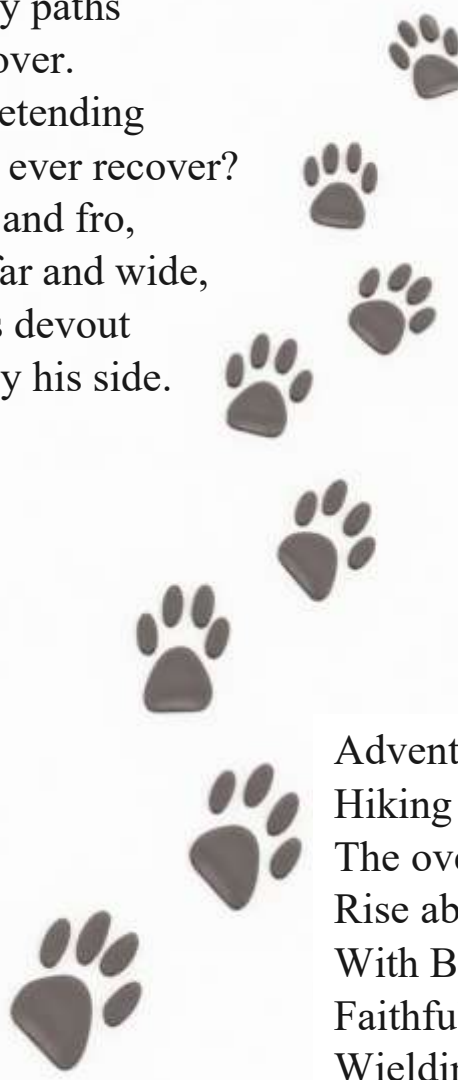
Bed bound brother Bob begged
for better butter broth

Round ring-eyed rickety
raccoons wrangled Rick

Fuzzing fuming zooming
looming loon boon rooms.
Assuming looming grooming
communing loons are cartoons.

Bear Dog

Oh, so many paths
Yet to discover.
Will this pretending
Woodsman ever recover?
Looking to and fro,
Searching far and wide,
Without his devout
Bear Dog by his side.



Adventurous boy
Hiking with great might,
The overgrown weeds
Rise above his sight.
With Bear Dog as his
Faithful protector,
Wielding his walking
Stick like a scepter.

1979

Remembering
Root & Bear Dog



She spent years with her family with exhilaration
Sometimes even to the point of exasperation.
A loyal dog, showing to her owner's great devotion,
Picking up a toy or ball could cause a commotion.

Veggie's greatest loves: chasing toy, ball,
squirrel or bird,

Chasing most anything-anytime, for her,
was not absurd.

Those memories are now so very clear in
my mind,

It seemed as if puppy Veggie would never
unwind.



She was a really good dog all through those many years.
Her biggest problem was those big floppy itchy ears.
Now old and worn, blind and deaf, needing lots of rest,
She gave her family all she had, gave her very best.

Though she lays there grouchy, sometimes in lots of pain,
Her life meant so much to us, it was not in vain.
Deserving the regard, love and patience given now,
Her family cares for her ... it's all about learning how.

My life is better for having known her ...



Dirty Dog Yapper



Maltese dog was well kept and white,
A happy dog and very bright.
Loved camping, ready to go,
Soon to become the Yapper show.

Curly long-hair dog, a beauty.
At the campsite began his duty,
Running round in a cloud of dust
Full on camp dog "Camping or bust".

Sweet little dog so small and thin,
Might be small but bears didn't scare him.
Worry? No way, he could care less.
He saw himself as mighty fearless.

Lots to do. For Yapper, there wasn't much,
Tents and campers to guard and such.
But when it was time to pack back up,
It seemed like we had a different pup.

**It was a dog of a different color!
No exchanges, no returns!**



Kitty Cat Committee

Would you like to meet a kitty
Who resides in the big city,
Confident and very pretty,
From the Kitty Cat Committee.

Meet Kit Cat, the itty-bitty.
Drank cow milk 'til she was giddy.
Just getting to the nitty-gritty,
Yelling at the cat committee.

She thought her words were quite witty,
So she wrote this little ditty.
On my leaving, I felt pity
For the Kitty Cat Committee.



Scruffy

Introducing Scruffy
Considers himself fluffy.
Yes, this little kitty
Wasn't very pretty.

He was seen as shaggy,
And a little draggy,
He makes every attempt
But his looks remain unkempt.

Often called him fatty
Because he was so ratty.
Although prickly to the touch,
I loved him very much.

Don't look on the outside,
Real beauty's from the inside.
Though matted and tattered,
It really never mattered.

T H E P R E S E N T

Miles—from a litter of rescue kittens you see—
Pretty, sweet, precocious and playful, oh my!
Just as cute and soft as he could possibly be,
An adventurous and always moving little guy.



Slipping through doors quietly without being seen,
Miles was on the prowl, hunting with all his might.
Slinking down, moving in and out and in between,
Finally a worthy prey came into his keen sight.



Oh so slowly hunter Miles leaped into the air,
Grabbing, piercing and hanging on with all four paws.
Fighting the foe with all a feline can bare,
Penetrating that prey with those sharp open claws.



Rapid rabbit punches, his victim made no sound,
With that final surge, sensing his rival's demise
After all, it was the largest prey he'd taken down,
Pompous Miles the kitten felt proud and oh so wise.



Miles wanted to share his trophy with all of us.
He believed it would give his owners a great thrill.
All the way to the bedroom
he dragged that carcass
Surprise! Miles jumped up
on the bed to share his kill.



The Kill →



Poppy Kitty

My Poppy is a kitty
that likes to talk and talk
If you don't pay attention,
she'll give a louder squawk.
A short hair striped orange cat
with splotches of white,
She lets you know what she wants
from morning till night.

Poppy will get in your lap
to get your attention,
And don't think that's all she does,
just let me mention.
If her food is getting low,
she'll wake you up at night.
Stop it cat, don't wake me up,
you know that's not right!

Poppy likes to climb up and go to sleep on my chair,
And she really loves the smell of freshly washed hair.
Poppy can't resist the lure of freshly laundered clothes,
Whether clothes or clean hair, that's where you'll find her nose.

Now Poppy kitty knows eating our food is not right,
But if you don't pay attention, she will take a bite.
From daybreak to dark my sweet kitty gives me no rest.
However, I'll tell you straight up, Poppy kitty is the best!



Our cat is sitting
Just out of reach.
Wanting to pet him
I do so beseech.
I lean out for an
Enticing soft touch.
Oden moves some,
But not too much.

Just out of Reach

I'm thinking that we
Need to understand.
Must be his idea
To accept my hand.
Petting only comes
When Oden needs chow.
He just walked away
Needs are met for now!

Leppy the Tortoise

Leppy the Tortoise is a pet,
A reptile like I'd never met.
Sleeps in the bottom game shelf,
Interestingly, picked it himself.

Tickle the back of his shell by chance,
Leppy might just stand up and dance.
He will come when called by his name,
Holding some food, he will do the same.

He will go outside when it's warm,
Traveling in a particular form.
Touching his shell against the fence,
Round and round the yard. Makes no sense.

Now, thinking how Leppy was slow,
Several times round the yard he'd go.
Realization, each journey's assurance
Is just a matter of his endurance.



My Bunny Buttons

My bunny buttons runs around every day
In the yard I sit and watch him play.
He chases my little sister's rabbit
I think it's a really good habit.

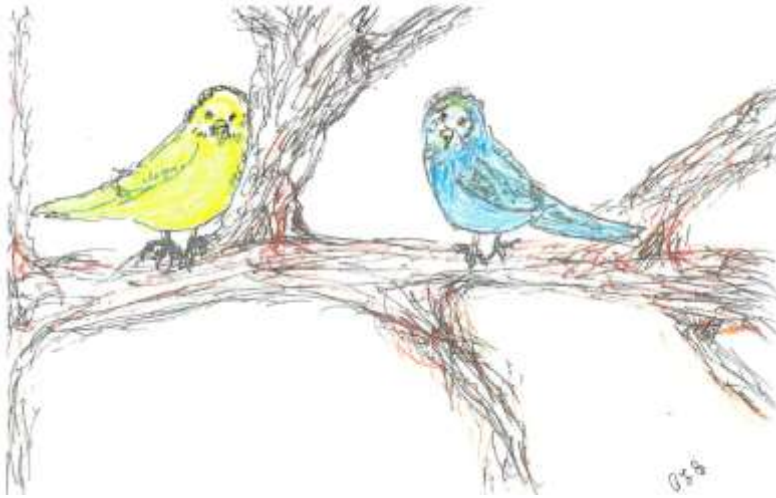
I like to watch the rabbits run
Every day when they play in the sun.
I like to watch my bunny eat
Because he has such funny feet.

I like to sit and watch him hop
While I drink some soda pop.
He runs away and hides somewhere,
I look and look 'til I find him there.

I try and catch him in the year,
Catching him is very hard.
When I have him, I hold him tight
Don't want to let him out of my sight.

I love my bunny every day
When I go outside to play.
I know this poem is very true
I'm glad I'm not chasing a kangaroo.

6. Outside Friends



TWO

SMALL

BIRDS

I was living with my middle child and her son. He wanted a pair of parakeets. Mom bought a cage and we all enjoyed buying toys, treats, perches, bells, etc. I even looked up parakeet songs on the internet.

When my grandson went off, I would turn on singing parakeets and our new birds would copy them. They would get loud and I would turn the sound up louder. I really enjoyed their singing. We had to cover the bird case at night to keep them quiet!

After a few months my grandson decided he would rather have a cat. We were all three missing my cat Poppy. My grandson was not cleaning the birdcage like he said he would, so the decision was made to rehouse the birds and get a kitten from the shelter. A home for the birds was found; a retired elderly couple said they would take them. We sent everything with them (a lot of stuff).

A few weeks later we heard that the elderly couple had again rehoused the birds. The couple proclaimed they had never heard parakeets sing that loud! They could not watch TV or sleep. I had inadvertently, not on purpose, trained them that way. The birds were just trying to be louder than the ones on the internet. Come to think of it, they were REALLY, REALLY loud. I liked it.

Chickaree and the Chip

In a campground with a lot of trees,
Robin wanted to see the chickarees.
Determined she was going to feed one,
It seemed like it would be lots of fun.

Noisy, territorial and nervous,
Lively and mostly human fearless,
Running here and there and everywhere,
Chickarees didn't easily scare.

Don't feed the wildlife, unwanted advice.
Those sweet little squirrels seemed so nice.
Wanted to be one with nature that day,
She decided to feed them anyway.

Opened the chips, got down on her knees
So she could feed the sweet chickarees
They were adorable, cute and small,
Oh! How she wanted to feed them all.

Robin gave the chickarees a chip,
Communing with them, formed a kinship.
Then when she stopped and closed the can,
That's when all the commotion began.

The chickarees ran right up her face,
All coming in an uncontrolled race.
Robin let out the most frightening yelp,
Jumped to her feet, yelling for help!

Don't feed the wildlife. You were told, right?
Please try to keep your food out of sight.
Hopefully she learned something (wink-wink)
Don't feed the chickarees? What do *you* think?



Alarm call: PILLILLOOEET



REDBIRD

Beautiful red bird digging worms in the late spring snow,
Pecking and moving by a little too slow.
A child captures him in a box as the bird hops by.
That brought a tear to his Mother's observant eye.

Hey, I got him, hear the flittering wings in the box.
The child was thinking, "I'm as sly as a fox."
"Hello, Mr. Redbird in a gilded cage, I'm Pete,
Brought you all kinds of bugs, worms and such to eat."

Now, tell me, being in a cage is not so bad,
But that captured redbird's eyes looked very sad.
Please be my friend Pete beseeched the unhappy bird.
Mr. Redbird, sitting on his perch, scarcely stirred.

Mommy quietly spoke, "My precious son, can't you see?
Redbird will only be happy when he is free."
Pete decided that it was best to let the bird go.
Mr. Redbird was happy, but I'm gonna miss him so.



Cricket

In a peaceful pond, lived a cricket
Surrounded by a bright green thicket.
Cricket's chirping, "This is the ticket".

Across the pond, over by a tree,
In the far distance, what did he see?
"Maybe someone who can play with me?"

There sat a frog on a lily pad,
Not moving, looking really sad.
Cricket thinking, "Is he mad or glad?"

Cricket want him to come and play.
Bust wasn't sure just what to say.
Oh well, guess he'll try another day.



Hop Along Little Green Frog

Hop along little green frog
Jumping onto the brow log
Please don't' hop away from me
Are you trying to stay free?

Hop along little green frog,
Sitting upon your brown log,
Jumping to the lily pad
I can't reach you now, so sad.

Tadpole

Little tadpole, living in the pond,
Contemplating adventures beyond.
I'm just a tadpole, always swimming,
After all, my life's just beginning.
Places to go, and many things to see,
New beginnings are waiting for me.



Jump, frog, jump, kurthump,
jurthump
As he jumps up on a stump.
Tell me what it's like to be
A green jumping frog, so free?
I can jump, just like a frog,
Jumping up onto a log.
I wonder how it would feel
To be a green frog, for real?
In the water, watching him,
He goes for a little swim.
Here is where I know to stop,
He swims as well as he can hop.

Frog Jump



7. Nature and Nurture

Biggest Sunflower Ever

This year at the fair I entered a flower,
With dreams of medals, being boy of the hour.
My concoction would grow enormously big,
As soon as the ground was warm enough to dig.

The Sunflower mixture was secret. Don't tell!
That fast-growing plant didn't have much smell.
Like magic, each day it grew almost two feet.
That made it really hard for someone to beat.

So miraculously on and on it grew,
So big it barely moved when the wind blew.
I started to think it's gonna reach to the sky,
Must have been more than twenty feet high.



The beautiful flower had bright yellow petals.
At the fair, I knew I'd win many medals.
Did I think it would grow that big? Never!
It was the **BIGGEST** Sunflower ever!





GREEN

Color life sustaining green, clean, bright and cool.
Sparkling water feeding a self-swirling pool.
Newly sprouted tree leaves on a warm Spring day,
Bushes dancing with a streaming breeze at play.

Transforming green colors in early Springtime,
Renewal of life and living sublime,
An ushering in of carefree days ahead,
An awakening to nature's sunshine fed.

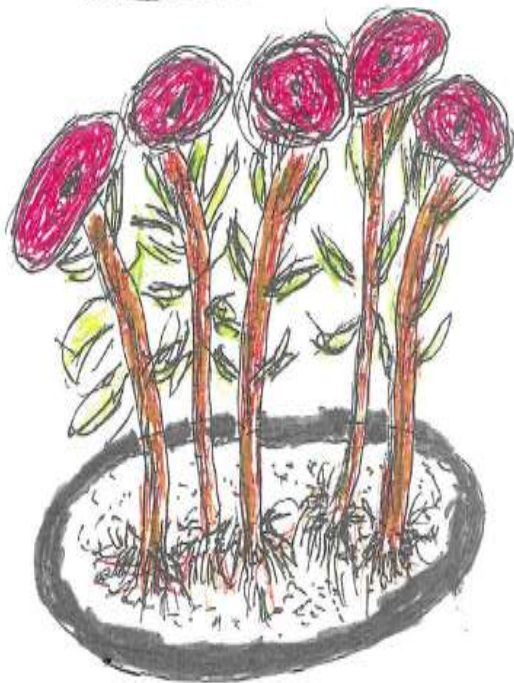


ORANGE & BROWN

Two of my favorite colors are orange and brown,
Like a sleepy tree with its leaves floating down.
The color the earth on an Autumn day,
Bright oranges children like to eat while they play.
Brown wooden fences, shades of bark on a tree,
Or an orange sunset, all beautiful to me.

There are other pretty colors that will do,
Like a red, yellow, green, pink, purple and blue.
But none make me feel more like wanting to play
Than orange and browns found on an Autumn day.
Stepping on leaves, listening to the crackling sound,
Delighted with all the Fall colors around.





Born of Weeds

Where some see
elegance and beauty,
Some only see
ugliness and weeds.
Like some flowers
growing in the yard
From a few strange
unwanted seeds.

There are some plants
that make you cry,
And others that
inspire one to sing.
Teared itchy eyes
or delightful smiles,
There is beauty
in most everything.

Behold, ugly can
bring about wonder
Search beyond the
things that you believe.
You may be
astonished by finding
What a person
can actually conceive.

When small, ate with my hands in a high seat

Now I can sit at a table and eat.

When small, made a mess on my tray and floor,

Now I eat all I have and even ask for more.

When I was small, I got food on my clothes,

I got food even on and in between my toes.

When small, didn't sit still, splashed food on my face,

Now I am neat and can sit still in one place.

When I was small, I ate soft mushy food,

Couldn't stay quiet and had an attitude.

Now I eat with my family every single day.

I like it so much better eating this way!

When
I
Was
Small





COLORS OF THE RAINBOW

The Colors of the rainbow
Top one another in a row
The very top it is said
To be a bright beautiful red.

Merging to an orange hue
So magnificent, passing through
Next in the layer color line
A dazzling yellow like sunshine.

Hold on, there's more to be seen
After sliding through vibrant green
Drifting in a color hue
Blending to a cool deep blue.

Moving on, let it be so,
Melding into indigo.
Floating in, last but not least,
Bathe in a Violet color feast.

List'ning to the olden tails
From flying magic ships with sails
At the grounded end of every rainbow
Can a pot of gold really be so?

WHY DID YOU WAKE ME UP

The holidays are over and the evening has come.
Mom has got to work tomorrow, and she is feeling numb.
The son climbs into bed with her; there is no school tomorrow.
“Be quiet” she whispers, thinking about work with sorrow.

As sleep finally comes over the mom, needing her rest,
The son is still excited, feeling Christmas was the best.
More than once mom has to call out, “Please let me sleep!”
The boy’s eyes fill with tears and then flow down his cheek.

The boy asks mom, “Why do you yell so loudly at me?”
Mom responds, “I have to work and need my sleep. Can’t you see?”
The little boy calms down, not wanting to interrupt,
“But Mommy, I don’t yell like that when you come wake me up.”



8. Expanding



The morning when I wake up
The first thing I always do
Is say, "I am so hungry",
So I run to wake up you.

You come along so sleepy
And ask, "What kind would you like?"
And while I'm making up my mind,
In runs one more little tyke.

Fumbling for a bowl and spoon,
Asking what we want and such,
We both want a different kind.
Are we asking for that much?

And after breakfast is all over,
Mom gets left with all the mess.
She looks worse than when she rose,
I think my mom needs a rest!



Ashton

Little eyes open wide,
It's seldom that he cried.
An eager baby boy
Thinks everything's a toy.



Ashton Alex is his name.
Conquering is the game.
Seeing the world as new;
So much to touch and do!

He had not yet learned to walk,
Barely knew how to talk.
The floor hurts the knees to crawl.
Still, he can really haul!



Wiggling boy, to and fro,
Salamander on the go.
Baby boy moving fast,
Cruising. What a blast!



Angel Walk

Ever go on an Angel Walk?
Maybe have some Angel Talk?
Wishing-yearning, I could
If possible, I surely would.

More than likely I have been
With them time and time again.
Assistance came when I fell,
Might be angels, couldn't tell.

In an Angel's mighty arms
Safe from all looming harms.
Sheltered by a girded wing
While attending angels sing.

Gazing into eyes of light,
Glory-given Angel sight.
Warmed in an Angelic bath,
Shining eyes light the path.



Angels helped along the way.
Are there Angels here today?
Keep on hoping that I'll see
Just maybe I have, could be?

Lunch

The child thinks, “Humm, I’m getting hungry,”
Totally ignoring me.
He ponders on food in the kitchen.
Decides to go look and see.

Gets up and brings back a loaf of bread
From upon a kitchen shelf.
The child proceeds to eat a few slices,
Keeping it all to himself.



The child now thinks, “I want more than this”
As he gets up from his seat.
He goes to the fridge and then comes back
With a whole package of meat.

He proceeds to eat the entire packet
As most any child would do.
When he’s done he then thinks to himself,
“What else can I get into?”



The child goes into the fridge drawer
And found himself a cutie.
Sitting from my chair, this old Grandma
Thinks, “I have done my duty.”

In my defense, all I can say is,
I spent years raising my own bunch.
Guess what I told his mom: “Your child had
A sandwich and fruit for lunch.”



Big Daddy Chair Bear

There was a Daddy Bear with money to spare
Who wanted to buy a new Daddy Bear Chair.
Consulting with home designer, Momma Bear,
Making the furniture match was her one care.

So, Daddy and Aussie Bear went to the store.
Found a chair he thought his wife would adore.
Drove it home; pushed it through the garage door.
It did match, but was massive and hard to ignore.

Where shall we put this? Momma Bear did implore.
“Put Mom’s chair in the corner” he said with a roar.
“And mine right here in the middle of the floor.”
And thought to himself, what a fantastic score!

“My Ohio State blanket fits the back of the chair.
And look, the chair’s big enough for two bears to share!”
Mom wanted to say it’s ugly, but didn’t dare.
After all, he’d become the Big Daddy Chair Bear!

Inspired by my youngest daughter.



ROCK-A-COUCH

Three small children together sitting close to me,
All fit that old, worn blanket-cover-over-seat
One on each side of me, with the smallest in my lap
Pushing that wood-frame rocker with both of my feet.

One under each of my arms, one next to my heart,
What a wonderful feeling when I'm holding all three
A lingering nostalgic cherished memory,
Holding all my babies forever close to me.



Child's Wish

A child saw a dandelion seeding in green grass,
Making a wish, he blew those seeds into the wind.
I ask about the wishes he had made as we pass,
Strolling on this spring day, trying to be a friend.

His very first wish was Daddy would stop smoking,
And the next one was that Daddy's girlfriend didn't die.
All that he was saying was truly thought provoking.
It deeply saddened me; brought a tear to my eye.

I asked if he had a third wish, what would it be?
He wished that Grandma was not old; once again could walk.
While momentarily awestruck, his wisdom I could see.
I reassured him that I was glad we'd had this talk.

This little child spoke what he felt from his gentle heart,
An innocence within so pure, so benevolent.
If only man could hear what this young child could impart,
We'd understand what in life is truly relevant!



Thank You

A small word like “thank you” can mean a lot
Angry words have caused wars to be fought.
Don’t take good deed for granted, my dear,
Sometimes all of us just need to hear.

Spreading good feelings to everyone
About the little things they have done.
Unthoughtful spoken words take their toll;
Appreciative words bring calm to the soul.

Thank
you!

Old Christmas tree ornaments of days gone by
With tinsel, lights and pretty ribbons that tie.
Trinkets with jingles and silver bells that chime,
Each memory seemingly frozen in time!

Years of hearts reaching out to one another,
Dearest father, mother, sister and brother,
Grandparents, daughters, sons and all sorts of blends,
And let's not forget acquaintances and friends!

Sharing many stories while trimming the tree,
Warmed within, glowing hearts filled with glee.
Hanging up all those vintage memories that last,
Burned deep into the soul from Christmases past.

Christmas

Memory

Tree



MOM,

I just wanted to tell
you I love you this much!



From:
Robin

Decorum for Living

Decorum for living wise

Is organize, organize.

If you use it, don't be slack,

Pick it up and put it back.

When consuming food or drink,

Rinse your dishes in the sink.

When changing, a body knows

Duds go in the dirty clothes.

If you drop or knock it down,

Pick it back up to be found.

If some thing is done for you,

Be thank full for what they do.

If some thing you touch breaks,

Just own up to your mistakes.

When you see someone in need,

Now it's time to do a good deed.

In anything you do, take care.

Remember just to stay aware!





My grandchild came to me as if looking for an answer he could not find. His face looked really worried, with something enormous on his mind. He stands up tall right in front of me, and intently looks into my eye, “Grandma, you are old” he says, then asks “Are you soon going to die?”

Gently I spoke, “Being born and dying happens to all, my little one. You have many years ahead of you, and yes, mine are almost done.” I could see the concern in his eyes, and wondered what should I say or do? I ask, when I die, can I be an angel “watching over you”?

“Yes” he answered calmly, seemingly fine with our talk about life and death. I said, “I’d love to watch over you when I finally draw my last breath.” Then, putting my arms around him, we both hug and I kiss him good night. I watch him walk away, knowing that everything will be all right.

With Love, Mom, Grandmom, and Great-Grandmom

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