

Spring 2023

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Billy

Never speaks
Trapped within damaged brain
Body twisted, limbs trembling
Sitting in hospital yard
Humming tunes without melody.
Bright soul standing tall
Articulate mind intact
Singing melodious songs of love
Only God and he can hear.

When young and easy

When young and easy Naked with her on a summer's day Hidden among swaying corn Whispering love's promises.

No thoughts but making love Heart rejoicing hearing her voice Soul trembling with life's reason Each kiss a giddy taste of wine.

LOVE

Love is never boastful But patient, steadfast and honest Moving mountains in its path.

Love is never jealous, wicked nor envious Never keeping records of wrong doings But smiling walks the extra mile.

Love is never self-seeking nor proud Never delights in evil Has no price to be bought and sold.

Death of a sperm whale

With her calf she dives
Into the darkness a mile below the waves
Where great squid abides
Ferocious Goliath monarch of oceans deep.

Singing lilting lullaby to her calf In darkness she swims in playful mood And for an hour remains down in the deep Swimming side by side with her son.

Largest of toothed whales
The sperm whale comes to the surface
Spouting water through her blowhole
Smacking her great tail upon the waves.

Japanese harpooner takes aim
Deadly bolt plunges home
Explosive charge detonates
Mortally wounded she calls to her calf.

Hauled up dying by her tail
Against the side of the whaling ship
In agony she dangles with head in the sea
Bleeding slowly to death.

Her calf calls out in anguish Following the ship for hours But there is no lilting answering lullaby Only blood in the water.