

Albert and the little bird

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While Albert was out fishing for tiddlers
To take home in an old jam jar,
He came across a little bird
Lying in the grass.

Albert crept a little closer
And when he didn't fly away
Albert picked him up carefully and said
"I'll find you somewhere to stay."

Albert could feel his little heart beating
In the palm of his hand
And said "I'll look after you
But you have to understand,"

"We musn't let mother find you
In the corner of my room,
Because mother has been known to work swiftly
With the handle of a broom."

The little bird opened his mouth
As if he was trying to sing
And when nothing came out he hid his head
Further under his wing.

Albert found a little shoe box
And filled it with straw,
And he made a sign "do not enter"
And hung it on his door.

"Isn't our Albert acting strange" said mother
"In his room without a sound?"
Father said "nought up with peace and quiet mother,
The lad'll come around."

"Now little bird" said Albert
"I'm off out to find you something to eat.
You stay here and be quiet
Not a sound, not even a squeak."

The little bird blinked his eyes as if to say
"I'll do the best I can,"
Then Albert sneaked out the back door,
Through the gate and ran.

Back to the river
Where he found the little bird,
To collect bird food
Snails, bugs, worms.

The little bird was very excited
When Albert arrived back home
And he chirped and chirped until Albert said
"Sh..... or you'll have to go."

"What's going on up there?" said mother
"I hope you're not making a mess."
"I'm just practicing me bird calls" said Albert
"I have nothing to confess."

Once the bird had eaten his dinner
He flapped his wings as if ready to fly,
Albert said "tonight I'll take you back to the river
Where we will say goodbye."

Albert waited quietly
Until mother and father were fast asleep,
Then he took the little bird back to the river
Without so much as a peep.

"Goodbye" said Albert
"Come and visit me someday
You'll often find me down by the river
I come here after school to play."

The little bird took to the air
As easily as can be
And he circled Albert many times
As if to say "look at me, look at me."

"I'm watching" said Albert, "I'm watching"
Then the little bird disappeared into the night sky.
"Tomorrow I'm back to catching tiddlers" said Albert
"Goodbye little bird, goodbye."
