



Ririro

READ ANYWHERE, ANYTIME

Autumn Among the Birds

Edith M. Thomas

[Enter a little Snipe, crying]:

Peet-weet! Peet-weet!

I've such cold feet,

And nothing to eat!

The creek is so high

That I can't keep dry

Except when I fly!

Peet-weet!

[A Kildeer]:

Kildee! Kildee! Kildee!

This is no place for me!

The southland I must seek——

Kildee!

[A Bobolink]:

Link-a-link! Link-a-link!

My diet has made me weak;

The fields of rice must be so nice.

[To the Kildeer]:

I'll go with you, I think——

Link-a-link!

[A Red-Shouldered Blackbird]:

Bobaree! Bobaree!

A frost you'll see——

You'll see to your sorrow,

If you wait until to-morrow——

Bobaree!

[A Chipping-Bird]:

Chip-chip! Chip-chip! Chip-chip!

I'll give November the slip!

[A House-Wren]:

Sh! Sh! Sh!

Every one loves the Wren!

Wait, and just once again
I'll go, and, as still as a mouse,
Peep into the little house
They built for my use alone,
With a door and a porch like their own!—
Sh!



[A Maryland Yellow-Throat Interrupting]:

Witches here! Witches here!
And no wonder—so late in the year!

[A Flock of Wild Geese Flying Over]:

On! On! On!
Why should we longer stay?
On! Ere the peep of day
We should be leagues away,
Quite out of sight of land!
Our old gray Commodore
Will guide our gallant band
With the daintiest food in store!
To a pleasant southern shore,
On! On! On!

[A Flock of Swallows Rising]:

Zip! Zip! You may count on the Swallow!
We hear, and anear we will be;
The rest, if they like, may follow
O'er land and o'er sea.

[A Bluebird to Her Mate]:

Weary! Oh, weary! Oh, weary!

It's a long, long, long way, dearie!

[A Robin]:

Quip! Quip! Cheer up! Cheer up!
But I think we ought first to sup;
With such a long journey ahead,
Pilgrims should be well fed——
Quip! Quip!

[A Highlander Shouts from the Top of a Dead Tree]:

A-wick-wick! wick-wick! wick-wick! wick! Yare-op!
If all this senseless chatter you would stop,
And listen, an announcement I would make:
Old Father Crane will soon be here to take
All you small folks upon his back——
Wick-wick!

Chorus of Small Birds [Chippy, Wren, Yellow-bird, Pewee, Kinglet, etc.]:

Peet-weet! Zit! Zit! Cheeree! Ittee! Be Quick!

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