# LILT O' THE BIRDS

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Lilt O' the Birds by Emile Pickhardt

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## **EMILE PICKHARDT**

# LILT O' THE BIRDS



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BY EMILE PICKHARDT



BOSTON SHERMAN, FRENCH & COMPANY 1912 KF 1817

BY EXCHAUGE



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### CONTENTS

																			AGE
YE MERRY BIRDS				٠	•	•	•	*0		•	*	٠	٠	٠		32			1
THE CAPTIVE BIRD																			
JENNY WREN		•		•			٠		٠	٠					15				3
THE THRUSH																			
THE HOMING DOVE		•		ů.	٠			÷	•		٠	٠	٠		٠	•			8
O BIRD THAT CLEAV	ES :	THI	E A	Z	JR.	E 5	KI	ES											6
THE ORIOLE							٠	٠	٠	•				٠				٠	7
THE SONG OF THE B																			
OH, TELL ME, YE BI	RDS															9			9
THE SEA GULL										•	•								10
TO A HUMMING BIRI																			
THE SONG SPARROW .		٠	•										٠				•		19
THE WOUNDED BIRE																			
THE BEREAVED ROB	N.							٠								•			16
SPARE THE GENTLE	SO	NGS	STE	R				•			•	•	*			•	*		17
THE WHIDDOODWILL																			

\* 1 350 ¥ DF (D**#**) ⊕1 • u u

### ILLUSTRATIONS

PRO	NTISPIECE																	Pa	oin	7 2	age
	THRUSH				·	3.00			•			*			×				٠		
	ORIOLE .																				
THE	HUMMING		BII	RD	•	•	•	•	٠	•	٠	٠	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	11
	SONG SPA																				
THE	BEREAVE	n	R	OB	IN					 			-	147			10.00				16



#### YE MERRY BIRDS

On, where shall tongue or pen find words
To sing your praise, ye merry birds;
Your pretty forms, your gentle eyes,
Your graceful flight athwart the skies;
Your plumage soft of colors rare,
Your joy songs pulsing everywhere?
Nay, words of mine impotent seem
To fitly clothe the fertile theme.

Ah, what a cheerless world 'twould be
Without your song and flight so free;
Nigh half the charm would disappear
Of springtime joys, were you not here
A sense of buoyancy to bring
And thoughts of heaven, when ye sing;
E'en summer's glow and autumn's hue
Were dulled and dreary without you.

And so I fain your charms would tell;
Nor could I fail to sing them well,
Befittingly to voice your praise,
Could I but catch your thrilling lays;
Could my poor muse but with you rise
In flight amid the lambent skies—
Oh, surely then, I'd find the words
To sing of you, O merry birds.