

Up in the Morning Early

Cauld blaws the wind frae east to west,
The drift is driving sairly;
Sae loud and shrill's I hear the blast,
I'm sure it's winter fairly.

Up in the morning's no for me,
Up in the morning early;
When a' the hills are cover'd wi' snaw,
I'm sure its winter fairly.

The birds sit chittering in the thorn,
A' day they fare but sparely;
And lang's the night frae e'en to morn,
I'm sure it's winter fairly.

Up in the morning's no for me,
Up in the morning early;
When a' the hills are cover'd wi' snaw,
I'm sure its winter fairly.

Robert Burns

From Night Monkey, Day Monkey

The moon shone down on the jungle.
Night Monkey climbed up the tree.
She clambered and leapt to where Day Monkey slept,
And whispered, "You can't catch me."

Day Monkey woke up and chased her,
But lost his grip on the bark.
He landed, cross, on a bed of moss,
Complaining, "It's much too dark!"

"Look!" said Day Monkey. "Hundreds of eyes,
Winking and blinking and bright."
Night Monkey laughed and said, "Don't be daft,
They're fireflies that flash in the night."

Julia Donaldson

To a Mouse

WEE, sleekit, cownin, tim'rous *beastie*,
O, what a panic's in thy breastie!
Thou need na start awa sae hasty,
 Wi' bickering brattle!
I wad be laith to rin an' chase thee,
 Wi' murdering *pattle!*

I'm truly sorry Man's dominion
Has broken Nature's social union,
An' justifies that ill opinion
 Which makes thee startle
At me, thy poor, earth-born companion
 An' *fellow-mortal!*

I doubt na, whyles, but thou may *thieve*;
What then? poor *beastie*, thou maun live!
A *daimen-icker* in a *thrave*
 'S a sma' request;
I'll get a blessin wi' the lave,
 An' never miss't!

Thy wee-bit *housie*, too, in ruin!
Its silly wa's the win's are strewin!
An' naething, now, to big a new ane,
 O' foggage green!
An' bleak *December's win's* ensuing,
 Baith snell an' keen!

Thou saw the fields laid bare an' waste,
An' weary *Winter* comin fast,
An' cozie here, beneath the blast,
 Thou thought to dwell,
Till crash! the cruel *coulter* past
 Out thro' thy cell.

Robert Burns