

A New Day

By Marilyn Reeves

How long did I lie there, alone and afraid,
Hovering in the depths of despair?
I'd lost all sense of time ...
It might have been days;
It felt like a year.

Night and day all seemed the same
As I lay there alone with my pain.
But did I cry out?
Surely, I must have cried out!
But no one heard me, no one came.

Someone had locked me away one day
And had left me there with no key.
So I covered my head
with that scratchy wool blanket,
And began sleeping my life away.

Water. There must have been water,
Pails and pails of water
to replenish all of my tears.
All I remember is that I kept my
head covered,
As I tried to hide from my fears.

But that scratchy wool blanket
Must have slipped down,
For when I awoke and looked around
I saw through a crack in the door
A beam of sunlight had entered there,
Turning the moats that swirled in the air
Into sparkling bits of pixie dust.
And I thought to myself, 'How pretty!'

And then I thought,
'Well, no one is coming to rescue me,
But perhaps it's time. I'm ready.'
I need to get up. I must!

I ventured a foot onto the gritty floor,
And then bracing myself on the
edge of the bed I tried to stand,
But my legs hadn't been used in so long
They couldn't hold me up any more,
So I came crashing down.

I crawled instead away from the bed
Toward the source of light.
As I turned the knob and opened the door,
My eyes were dazzled –
The day was so bright!

But once I was able to see through the glare
I determined there was nothing there
to harm me.
Only the brilliance of the newborn sun
Bringing light to the brand new day.

I had come to this place
to hide from the world
But now I set myself free.
I was surprised to see that I needed no key,
For the door had been locked
from the inside ...
And the one who had locked it was me.