



PROJECT MUSE®

Hammered Dulcimer

Lisa Williams

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YELLOW BIRD

Where, oh where, has my yellow bird gone?
Has he gone to the ocean? Has he gone to the town?

*He has stitched up the steeple with hardly a sound
and the bells haven't rung, haven't rung.*

Where, oh where, has my yellow bird gone?
Does he sing in the orchard? Does he sleep by the pond?

*He has plucked a black spider and swallowed it down
and he leaves its torn web on the ground.*

Where, oh where, has my yellow bird gone?
Have his feathers been scattered, like leaves in the wind?

*He has flown to the well where his shadow falls in
as he lands on the stones of its rim.*

Where, oh where, has my little life gone?
Have I nothing to guide me, and cold days to come?

*I have seen his bright body approaching the sun
and his feathers have turned into flame.*