

## Blackbird

Blackbird, bright-eyed,  
Sleek black feathers,  
Perches on the highest bough,  
Beak dipped in gold  
From the alchemist's jar.  
The beak opens; the music begins.  
First a fine drizzle of notes.  
Then the volume  
Grows and swells  
To a full-throated warble,  
Showering the trees  
With song.

*Margaret Hardy, 2021*

