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Heart and Mind

Alice Gill Benton

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hear the shrill whistle,
the rains have come.

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Bees pluck corn honey
in tassels of blue corn,
red corn,
white corn,
after the rains.

Water shining
on the fields,
water shining
on the boughs,
clear water
in the stream,
after the rains.

Heart and Mind

By ALICE GILL BENTON

Children and home, friendship and all sweet ties,
That fill the heart's content to overflowing;
Sunsets and stars, bird songs and April skies,
With spring's recurring charm of green things growing;
These are earth's offerings that so well beguile
Us—the near, dear things, that beautify our ways.
Mist on the mountain or a baby's smile
Are joy's own alchemy for dreary days.

Yet life is more than these. The hungry mind
Goes searching for the mystery beyond
All breath and beauty—for the power behind
The sunrise or the brake fern's curling frond;
Reaching through all the near, dear things that are,
To grasp a future world, a farther star.