

"They chased that burglar man as he  
Smashed through the window mightily;  
Policemen came; they seized him well,  
And now he droops within a cell!"

The ladies were delighted with her tale of Black Thomas, and when she finished they clapped their hands and bowed and smiled, and we birds chirped and whistled to each other, and sat with our heads on one side, looking very knowing, for we had been among the first to hear of this story.

To the great amusement but not to the surprise of the ladies, Beatrice promptly took up a collection in a knitting bag that could have held a thousand dollars.

When she retired to the back of the lawn, Sammy-Sam came tumbling forward on hands and feet and, starting to bow politely, lost his dog mask, which Beatrice quickly clapped on again.

"Bow, wow, ladies," he said,

"I am a little doggie dog.

There's only one person in the world for me,  
And that's my master or mistress, whichever it happens to be.