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poem

The Man with the Wooden Leg

Katherine Mansfield

There was a man lived quite near us;
 He had a wooden leg and a goldfinch in a green cage.
 His name was Farkey Anderson,
 And he'd been in a war to get his leg.
 We were very sad about him,
 Because he had such a beautiful smile
 And was such a big man to live in a very small house.
 When he walked on the road his leg did not matter so much;
 But when he walked in his little house
 It made an ugly noise.
 Little Brother said his goldfinch sang the loudest of all birds,
 So that he should not hear his poor leg
 And feel too sorry about it.

Selected by Femi Oyeboode.

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