

## Poem: Nothing Like Putting a Child to Sleep

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*By Sarah Fathima*

Running after the butterflies  
fluttering in the golden sunshine  
You try to capture the frisky beauties  
in your little fist so tender

You sail your rickety paper boats,  
Handcrafted, to bravely endure  
unfathomable journeys

And then you play in the moist earth,  
carefully moulding chocolatey mountains  
Reaching for the endless stretch  
of an azure blue canopy above

And finally, dear child,  
When your blackberry-like eyes  
become heavy and sombre

It is time to lull you to  
the enchanting world of your dreams  
that pine for  
your chirpy enthusiasm

Let me sing you a soft lullaby,  
melodious and soothing  
Closing your eyes,  
unlocking your innocent fantasies

smear'd with vibrant colour and hue

I feel a mysterious feeling of tranquillity  
as you cuddle into your warm quilt  
Snug, cosy, content

Hugging your teddy bear tight,  
as priceless to you  
As you are to me, the apple of my eyes

As you drift off into a sound nap,  
Happiness and peace  
beckon my heart and soul

Sleep, my child, and wander into  
the meadows of your lofty dreams,

Pocket the glowing stars aplenty,  
Slide down the flamboyant rainbow

Forget for a while the bustle and din  
of this hasty world

Forget the harsh and bitter who wrestle  
with your fragile emotions

Begin your journey towards  
joyous freedom sublime,  
Embracing you fondly  
with its arms wide open,

Where your lovingly conjured dreams are  
as precious as you!

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