

2021

Spring Sojourn

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Recommended Citation

Lueckel, Thomas (2021) "Spring Sojourn," *Calliope*: Vol. 33 , Article 24.
Available at: <https://researchrepository.wvu.edu/calliope/vol33/iss1/24>

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Spring Sojourn

Thomas Lueckel

Quiet –

We are waiting for a phoebe

Keep your eyes turned south
To the warm wind
They catch beneath their wings

Look for the modest clothes
A tufted brown coat
And a wintry undershirt

Look for the dips and dives
Of a hunting flycatcher
And a curious wagging tail

It is cold still, but they will come
Chasing Spring, as it rises
From South Padre to Saskatchewan

Berries are still dreams
In the long winter sleep
Of riverside branches

Still, they will stop there
And pause for a moment's rest
From their endless journey

They peck at soft cotton buds
Singing to the signs of new life
That follow wherever they go

Listen for shrill joy in their song
The beautiful, musical moxie

In that trochaic swagger

Imagine the confidence required

To choose your own name

As the song that you will sing forever

“Phee-Bee!”