

The Man with the Wooden Leg (1916)

By 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.

