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## Utterly Silent and Utterly Still

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# UTTERLY SILENT AND UTTERLY STILL

Jed Luther

Utterly silent and utterly still.  
I gaze through the forest from this green hill.  
The eyes and ears they've both deceived,  
that which I hope for they've falsely received.

Utterly silent and utterly still.  
The cold has begun to test my will.  
Fingers, nose, and ears all frozen,  
but this is a suffering I've gladly chosen.

Utterly silent and utterly still.  
The call of a crow is deafening and shrill.  
The scratch of a squirrel or the rasping wind's shutter,  
raises my heart rate to just past a flutter.

Utterly silent and utterly still.  
The slow plodding step fills my chest with a thrill.  
When out of the trees comes the quarry I've sought.  
I move to position to line up the shot.

Utter chaos, a deafening roar.  
The animal's majesty, tainted with gore.  
I stand with my rifle and walk from the hill,  
to find him utterly silent and utterly still.