

FOR RILEY

Darling Riley, you are in your Grandmother's dreams
You know, you mean the world to me
Your smile, your look, your eyes
Open and loving, ready for life
Riley, you are a beautiful girl!

Hopes and dreams of life make me wonder
What will you be
What will you do
Where will you go
Who will you see?

Your Mama and Daddy's wish came true
Filling their hearts with love and joy
What does life hold for you
Is it little girl toys
Or big girl goals?

You are in cowgirl boots and a cowgirl hat
Each year growing by leaps and bounds
Inches seen on the measuring door
Three feet, four feet, and then five
Soon you may be six feet high!

You are squealing, jabbering Mama, Dada, Nana, cookie
Sitting, crawling, standing, walking, and running
Be safe, be careful, that's hot, that's sharp
Don't go outside, it's way too dark
Don't stay inside it's too sunny outdoors!

At home watching videos, DVDs, and HDTV
Daycare, preschool, then kindergarten and first grade
Birthday parties, Christmas, Easter-egg hunts, and Halloween
In-between gymnastics, ballet and dance
Piano lessons with recitals and all that stuff!

Red, green, blue, black, counting 1 to 10, and the ABCs
Reading, spelling, reciting, and telling time,
Numbers, fractions, addition and subtraction
Multiplication tables, division, and grammar rules
Nickels, dimes, quarters, dollars, fives, and tens!

Stick-horses, tricycles, bicycles, and pogo sticks
Roller skates, motor scooters, and things that go fast
Hop-scotch, Mother-May-I, Simon Says,
T-ball, softball, swimming, soccer, and track
Brownies, Girl Scouts, and your first summer camp!

Grade School, Junior High, then High School
Friends, girlfriends, boyfriends, and Puppy Love
Picnics, parties, and the Senior Prom
You look beautiful in your evening gown
Dancing and partying the night away!

High School graduation in traditional cap and gown
Valedictory speech with Mama and Daddy grinning
Grandmother watching and smiling
Thankful for the life that was given
Proud of beautiful and wonderful Riley!

My darling granddaughter I want to see you grown
Hoping I will live to see that happen
Meanwhile, Riley, I see you in my dreams
Living and loving an ordinary life
That's what makes the world go around!

Marie Lowe (Grandmother)
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