Readings for the loss of a Child

Born Still

- by Tricia Richards -

Perfect!
And yet the beating of your heart was silent.
The breath of life from rosebud lips not felt.
Your silken lashes did not flutter
Unopened eyes never held our gaze.
The grasp of your small fingers still and without strength.
Your arms will never reach for us,
feet carry you to our embrace.
And we will never hear the music of your voice
Or know the sweet fragrance of your skin.

When did the tide of death steal you away?
If we could breathe our own life's breath
Bequeath you minutes, days and years;
we would.
But we are not the author or deliverer of life
We cannot solve the mystery of spirit and of soul
Or remove the shroud of death
that holds you still
Sweet child whose life will only ever live
within our dreams
We speak your name upon the wind
and it is carried far away
But you remain imprinted on our hearts
Forever!

Silent Child

- Kelly Lancor -

My silent child, our precious baby,
Close to my heart, I'll keep you with me.
An important job God has for you,
There is love to give and work to do.

He needs an angel, strong but small,
To shine light on many and give love to all.
Before you go I give you this,
half my heart and one last kiss.

We'll miss you dearly,
that we know,
But by God you were chosen,
So to Heaven, you must go.

Funeral Poem

- Author Unknown -

Time has taken me from you,
Although not very far.
I'll be watching through the sunshine
And through the brightest star.

I'll be watching all of you,
From the heavens up above.
So take good care of each other
And carry all my love.

If you're ever wondering
If I'm there, here's where you can start.
Take a look inside yourself
Deep within your heart.

I'll always be your baby,
Your child (grandchild), your best friend.
So anytime you need me,
Close your eyes I'm back again.

Funeral Poem For The Loss Of A Child

- Author Unknown -

She/He was so very, very special
And was so from the start
You held her/him in your arms
But mainly in your heart.

And like a single drop of rain
That on still waters fall,
Her/His life did ripples make
And touched the lives of all.

She's/He's gone to play with angels
In heaven up above
So keep your special memories
And treasure them with love.

Although your darling daughter/son/grandchild
Was with you just a while
She'll/He'll live on in your heart
With a sweet remembered smile.

I Lost My Child Today

- Netta Wilson –

I lost my child today.
People came to weep and cry
As I just sat and stared, dry eyed.
They struggled to find words to say
To try and make the pain go away.
I walked the floor in disbelief.
I lost my child today.

I lost my child last month.
Most of the people went away.
Some still call and some still stay.
I wait to wake up from this dream
This can't be real - I want to scream.
Yet everything is locked inside,
God, help me, I want to die.
I lost my child last month.

I lost my child last year.
Now people who had came, have gone.
I sit and struggle all day long,
To bear the pain so deep inside.
And now my friends just question, Why?
Why does this mother not move on?
Just sits and sings the same old song.
Good heavens, it has been so long.
I lost my child last year.

Time has not moved on for me.
The numbness it has disappeared.
My eyes have now cried many tears.
I see the look upon your face,
“She must move on and leave this place."
Yet I am trapped right here in time.
The songs the same, as is the rhyme,
I lost my child.....Today.

The Cord

- Author Unknown -

We are connected, My child and I,
by an invisible cord not seen by the eye.

It's not like the cord that connects us 'til birth
This cord can't been seen by any on Earth.

This cord does its work right from the start.
It binds us together, attached to my heart.

I know that it's there though no one can see
The invisible cord from my child to me.

The strength of this cord is hard to describe.
It can't be destroyed, it can't be denied.

It's stronger than any cord man could create
It withstands the test, can hold any weight.

And though you are gone, though you're not here with me,
The cord is still there, but no one can see.

It pulls at my heart I am bruised...I am sore,
But this cord is my lifeline as never before.

I am thankful that God connects us this way
A mother and child, death can't take it away!

Snowdrop

- Author Unknown -

The world may never notice
If a Snowdrop doesn't bloom,
Or even pause to wonder
If the petals fall too soon.

But every life that ever forms,
Or ever comes to be,
Touches the world in some small way
For all eternity.

The little one we longed for
Was swiftly here and gone.
But the love that was then planted
Is a light that still shines on.

And though our arms are empty,
Our hearts know what to do.
Every beating of our hearts
Says that we love you.

One Year Less

- Cheryl McDonald -

There is no word, no label,
no identifying moniker
I am not a widow, not an orphan,
not childless
But one child less.
One less open laugh and little boy giggle
One less challenging tete-a-tete.
One less artful, winking manipulation
One less word of comfort, on less grateful hug
One less chance to embrace a daughter
One less new life to carry your eyes, your chin, your grin, your name.
No one word for the pain, the longing,
the brevity
of a life meant for living.
An old soul meant to grow older than mine
Would there be any one price too high
Any sacrifice too great
For one more moment, one more breath,
one more warm touch.
I grasp desperately and sense the closeness
the ONE just at the fingertips of my heart and mind
Only to realise again and again and again
There is no “"One"
you are gone and I am - less!

Tiny Little Blessing

- Author Unknown -

Tiny little blessing,
sadly couldn't stay
We cherish every minute,
each and every day.

You warm pink cheeks
and chubby little thighs
Every beautiful memory,
sneaks out from hooded eyes.

We kissed your tiny button nose
and prayed that you would stay
You felt our love and fought so hard,
God called you home today.

Now our hearts are broken,
our pain we can't deny
We know you're safe in Heaven,
and you dance across the sky.

These Are My Footprints

- Author Unknown -

These are my footprints,
so perfect and so small.
These tiny footprints,
never touched the ground at all.
Not one tiny footprint,
for now I have my wings.
These tiny footprints
were meant for other things.

You will hear my tiny footprints,
in the patter of the rain
Gentle drops like angel tears,
of joy and not from pain
You will see my tiny footprints,
in each butterfly's lazy dance
I'll let you know I'm with you,
if you give me just a chance.

You will see my tiny footprints,
in the rustle of the leaves
I will whisper names into the wind
and call each one that grieves.
Most of all these tiny footprints
are found in mummy's heart
cause even though I'm gone now,
we'll never truly part.

Your Memory Will Grow

- Author unknown -

Although we didn't get the chance
to take your tiny hand
And lead you through the childhood
which together we had planned.

And though there really wasn't chance
to show you all the love
Now sent to you abundantly
borne upwards by the dove.

Remember, Darling that
your tiny heart must know
That we will always treasure you
and your memory will grow.

To The Child In My Heart

- Author Unknown -

O precious, tiny, sweet little one
You will always be to me
So perfect, pure, and innocent
Just as you were meant to be.

We dreamed of you and of your life
And all that it would be
We waited and longed for you to come
And join our family.

We never had the chance to play,
To laugh, to rock, to wiggle.
We long to hold you, touch you now
And listen to you giggle.

I'll always be your mother.
He'll always be your dad.
You will always be our child,
The child that we had.

But now you're gone...but yet you're here.
We'll sense you everywhere.
You are our sorrow and our joy.
There's love in every tear.

Just know our love goes deep and strong.
We'll forget you never.
The child we had, but never had,
And yet we'll have forever.

Still Sleeping

- by Leonard Clarke (edited) -

I carried you in hope for many months
Remembered that close hour
when we made you
Often felt you kick and move,
as you slowly grew within me.
Wondered what you would look like
when your wet head emerged
Girl or boy, and what glad moment I should hear your birth cry.

You came; you did not cry.
You did not breathe.
They will say you did not live,
but you lived for us all of the time
In the dark chamber of my womb.
And when we think of you now,
we know that for us you are “born still”.
We shall cary you with us forever.
Our child, you were always ours,
you are ours now.
Death and life are the same mysteries.

Unconditional Love

- Author unknown -

When a child dies, a parent is still tied
to that child.
Souls, tied together across the universes.
It doesn't matter the age when they passed.
It doesn't matter how long ago it happened.
It doesn't matter - none of it.
Their souls are forever tied.

That's the love of a parent.
That's the love that is more powerful than death.
That's the heart that breaks and keeps breaking.
It knows no discrimination based off of age, health or time
It just is, and it always will be.
Their souls are forever tied
And there's nothing that can break them.
That's the beauty of unconditional love.

Goodbye Little One

- by Ruth Van Gramberg -

My little one, you filled my world
Heaven sent to me
A sunbeam in a darkened room.
A gift from God to see.

Your smile, so sweet and tender
You touched my very soul
You helped me grow, strong and tall
That was your little role.

You had to go, your time was right,
cold emptiness you leave
A life so short, so pure, so loved
Hearts you touched - now grieve.

It is some greater puzzle
I can never understand
I was another, a parent for a while
I felt so grand.

Now all that's left are memories
Framed in black and white
And this, deep and tearing
When you flew away from sight

But my little one, my pretty one
When I see the stars above
You will always shine the brightest
In the heaven of our love.

The Loss Of A Child

- Author Unknown-

The moment that I knew you had died
My heart split in two
The one side filled with memories
The other died with you.

I often lay awake at night
When the world is fast asleep
And take a walk down memory lane
With tears upon my cheek.

Remembering you is easy
I do it every day
But missing you is a heartache
That never goes away.
I hold you tightly within my heart
And there you will remain
Life has gone on without you
But I will never be the same.

For those who still have their children
Treat them with tender care
You will know the emptiness
As when you turn and they are not there.

Don't tell me that you understand
Don't tell me that you know
Don't tell me that I will survive
How I will surely grow.

Don't tell me this is just a test
That I am truly blessed
That I am chosen for the task
Apart from all the rest.

Don't come to me with answers
That can only come from me
Don't tell me how my grief will pass
That I will soon be free.

Don't stand in pious judgement
Of the bonds I must untie
Don't tell me how to grieve
Don't tell me when to cry.

Accept me in my ups and downs
I need someone to share
Just hold my hand and let me cry
And say “My friend, I care."

Her Role Down Here Is Done

- by Edgar Guest -

Her little soul has touched us all
She didn't need to stay
Her spirit touched each one of us
Before it sailed away.

We all know souls arrive on earth
With special roles to fill
And hers has fully played its part
Her memory guides us still.

She had a very special soul
She stayed but just a while
So if or when you're feeling sad
Recall her with a smile.

For then you'll know inside your heart
The reason why she's gone
And never feel too empty that
Her role down here is done.

Her spirit touched each one of us
No other ever could
Forever will we cherish her
The way we know we should.

Angel Wings

- Author unknown-

A precious angel slipped away
No on heard a cry
No time for Dad and Mummy
To sing me lullabies
My time with you was much too short
I had to leave too soon
But love had joined us as I grew
Inside my Mummy's womb.
It wove its way within our hearts
In all our hopes and dreams
Until the very purest love
became my tiny wings
Although I could not stay with you
I knew right from the start
That once you felt your angel's love
You'd keep me in your hearts.
I'm just a little angel
But my time was not in vain
As dark clouds that surround you
Give way unto to the sun
My precious parents you will see
That any heart will sing
If only for a moment
It is brushed by angel wings

Reading For The Loss Of A Child

- Author unknown -

This day will be a celebration
of the short time you were here
You will always be remembered
with great love and many tears.
But to ontly feel pain and sorrow
would not be fair to you
Your life meant so much more to us,
more than words could say.
You were here so briefly
I wonder if you knew
all the ways you've touched our world
and hearts
and everyone who knew you.
Now my child, you're an angel
with your heavenly Father above
we see not only what we've lost
but our capacity for love.
There will always be a big void in our life
and a hole in our hearts that will never heal.
Our souls will grieve forever.
Will we never forget or stop loving you?
No! Not now, not ever!

As this day is upon us
Oh how our hearts still hurt
But even as I mourn your death
We will always celebrate your birth.
It was the happiest day of our lives.

A Tiny Angel Face

- Author unknown -

A tiny angel face,
two sparkling little eyes
The cutest button nose,
our precious sweet surprise.
Mummy loved you dearly,
you set Daddy's heart awhirl
The joy of all the family,
our most darling little girl.

You closed your eyes so quickly,
you didn't stay for long
Taken oh so tragically,
sweet baby, it seems so wrong.
Divided as we are,
we will never be apart
As you will always live
inside your parent's hearts.