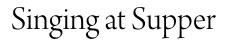
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Singing at Supper

– Barbara Armbruster

My Gram, as usual, wrote the commandments. First among them, "Children shall not sing at the table." Too serious, the work of surviving hard times, For singing at the table.

My mother, trained in those no-nonsense ways, Could no more contain her love of fun, Than hide the smell of her good cooking.

When Bud and I would pester her, "What's for supper?" She'd say, "Wind pudding, and rabbit tracks!" Leaving us a word puzzle to gnaw on.

Not your business, child, to know If the money envelope is empty, If the canning lasts the winter, If the corner store gives credit.

For she could take nothing And make of it something so wonderful, That I should have sung at the table, I should have sung and sung.