

I Hold Within My Arms

*I hold within my arms today
A priceless bit of mortal clay,
Divinely fashioned, and so fair,
The angels well may kinship share.*

*My soul with gratitude is filled,
My heart with mother love is thrilled,
My eyes brim o'er with new-born joy,
While gazing on my cherub boy.*

*O precious one! Through tears I see
A mighty task awaiting me.
My happy sky grows overcast,
Life's duties loom so grand, so vast.*

*To shield from wrong, to right incline,
This little life now linked to mine—
Divine the gift. Oh, may the mould
A heart of truth and honor hold!*

*Help me, kind Heaven, to know the way
From out the tangle of each day,
To guide him safe to manhood's prime,
And all the glory shall be Thine.*

— Quoted from M.I. Piatt