

Know them as I would have liked to

Amy Best

(Editor's note: Amy Best's poem is based on "Letters from the Astronomers," the LCSR reading by Siv Cedering. Amy wrote this poem as an assignment in SPAN 340, Latin American Culture, in fall 2004.)

My friends, the stars, hover over me each night,
Keeping watch on my life,
Loving me from above.
I rest assured that they care,
But I know not for why.

I prayed in your name
That you, too, would love these stars
And know them, perchance
Better than I was able.

To know them more than by
Just light; by their positions,
Ever-changing in our eyes;
To love them as they have loved me

The frustration at times overwhelms me.
I do not know them as I would like.
But you, dear child, can.
You may travel with the fiery balls
Of glory across the galaxy,
And spin on our night light and gentle friend, the moon.

Let Orion draw you close
And the Big Dipper scoop you near

Know these bodies, my child,
And let others know, as well;
For they will not leave you, ever.
They love you and I have loved them.

They are better than human friends
At times, who choose when they want to support you.
The stars are with you forever
Embrace them, and never look back.