

Janet Waking

waking up to the
reality of
death.

innocent

calm, peaceful
Beautifully Janet slept

grief

Setting:

weekend =
not in school
slept late
parents, brother
home

1 Till it was deeply morning. She woke then
And thought about her dainty-feathered hen,
To see how it had kept. "fancy" pet

One kiss she gave to her mother.

2 Only a small one gave she to her daddy
Who would have kissed each curl of his shining baby;
No kiss at all for her brother. "cooties"

Has had a long time

"Old Chucky, old Chucky!" she cried,

3 Running across the world upon the grass

hyperbole -
her world

To Chucky's house, and listening. But alas,

sadly / shift

Her Chucky had died.

her house

clucking,
chicken sounds

change, body, action
It was a transmogrifying bee

-Juxtaposition

4 Came droning down on Chucky's old bald head

And sat and put the poison. It scarcely bled,

But how exceedingly

enjambment

And purple did the knot

5 Swell with the venom and communicate

It's rigor! Now the poor comb stood up straight

But Chucky did not.

dark humor

rigor mortis

praying

So there was Janet

Kneeling on the wet grass, crying her brown hen

(Translated far beyond the daughters of men)

To rise and walk upon it.

Lazarus

Biblical
allusion

Eve + apple =

death

And weeping fast as she had breath

Janet implored us, "Wake her from her sleep!"

And would not be instructed in how deep

Was the forgetful kingdom of death.

-John Crowe Ransom

She thinks
chicken is
only asleep.

us = parents / brother

Lesson

The chicken
is dead;
you'll forget
about it.