

An Ocean Apart

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By Ann Chester-King

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Bartholomew Allerton (7)

Mary Allerton (3)

Remember Allerton (5)

Francis Billington (14)

Love Brewster (13)

Mary Chilton (13)

John Cooke (13)

Samuel Eaton (1)

Samuel Fuller (12)

Constance Hopkins (14)

Giles Hopkins (12)

Richard More (6)

Priscilla Mullins (17)

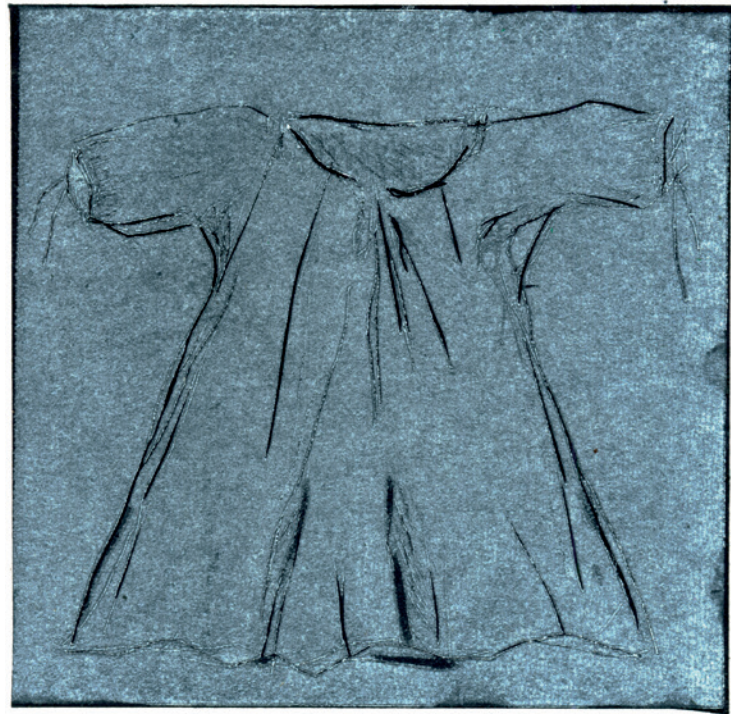
Joseph Rogers (17)

Elizabeth Tilley (13)

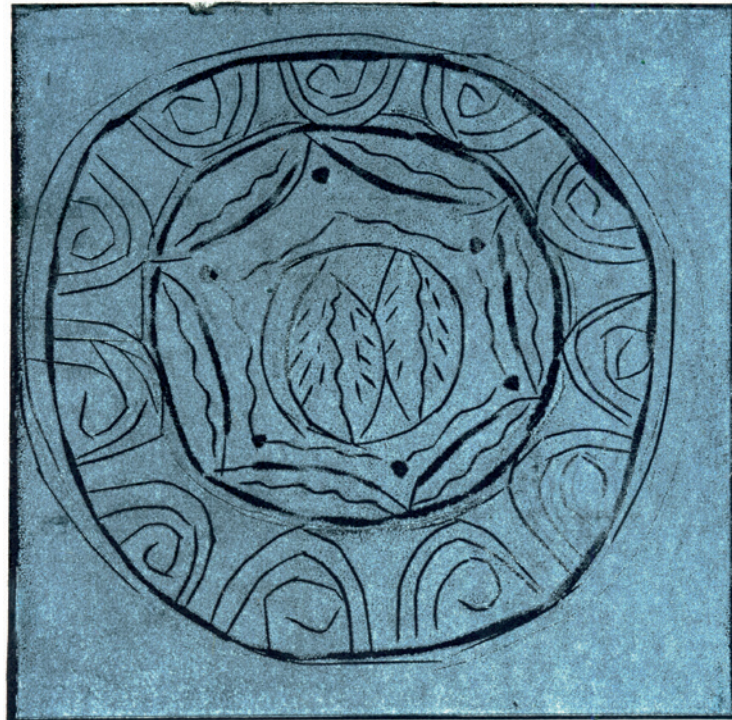
Peregrine White (born aboard)

Resolved White (5)

Thirty-one children boarded the Mayflower in 1620, seventeen of these children survived into adulthood to have children of their own.



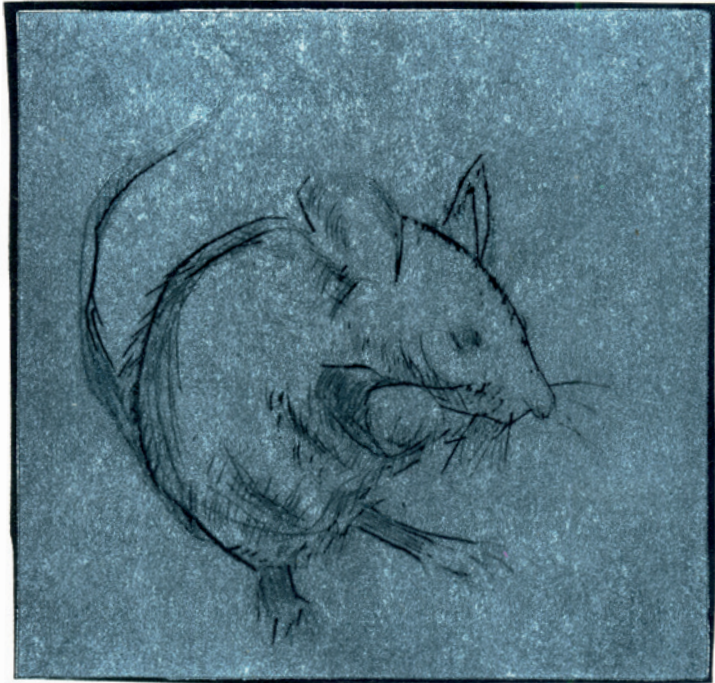
Long did I keep you soft and warm,
And with my wings kept off all harm



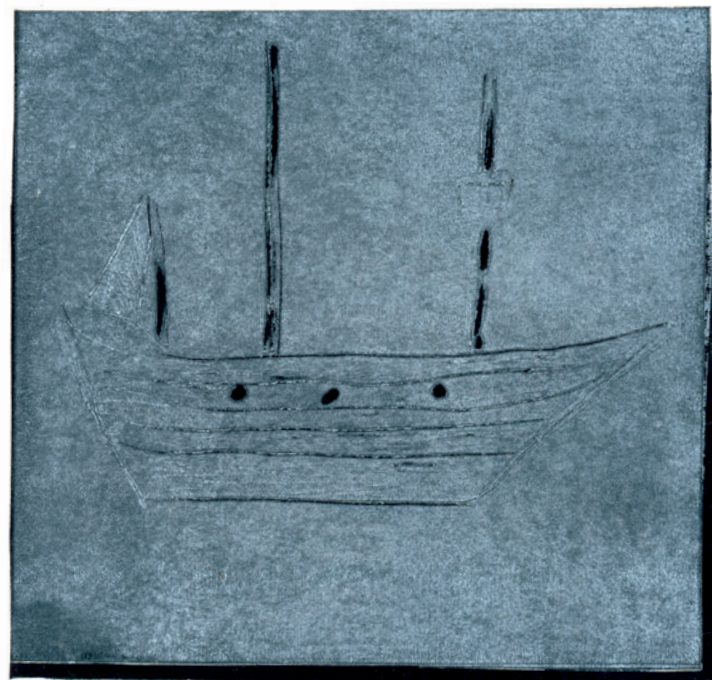
If birds could weep, then would my tears
Let others know what are my fears



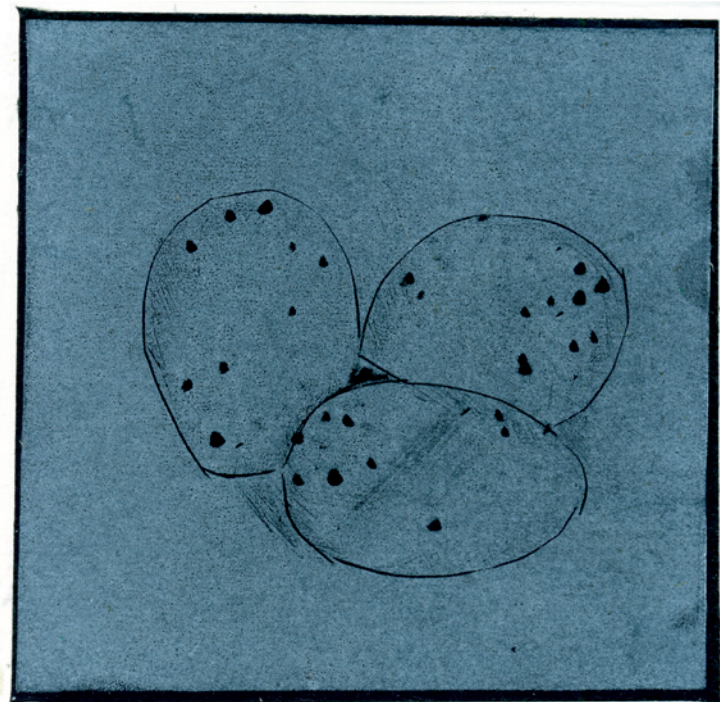
Along the beach among the treen



The nightingales he might excel.



And as his wings increase in strength,
On higher boughs he'll perch at length



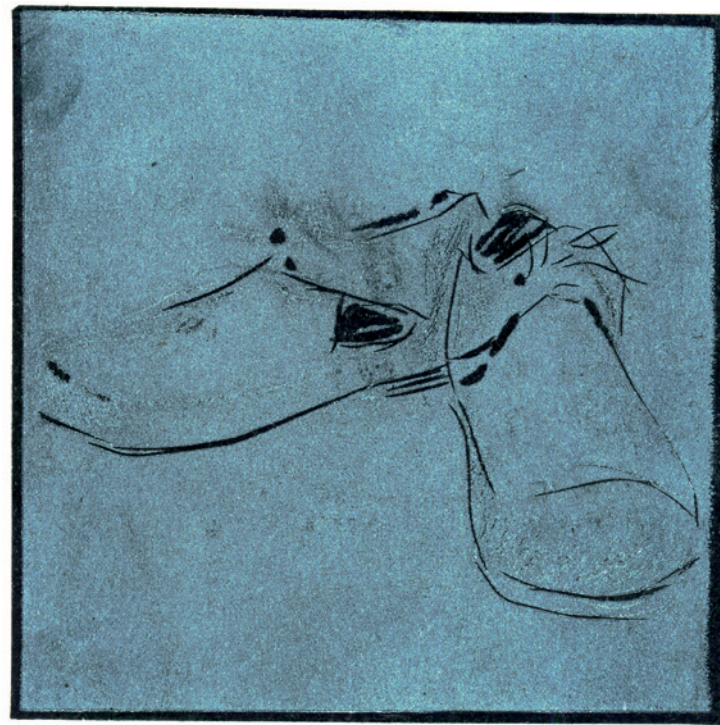
Till after blown by southern gales,
They norward steered with filled sails



And there with seraphims set song,
No seasons cold, nor storms they see



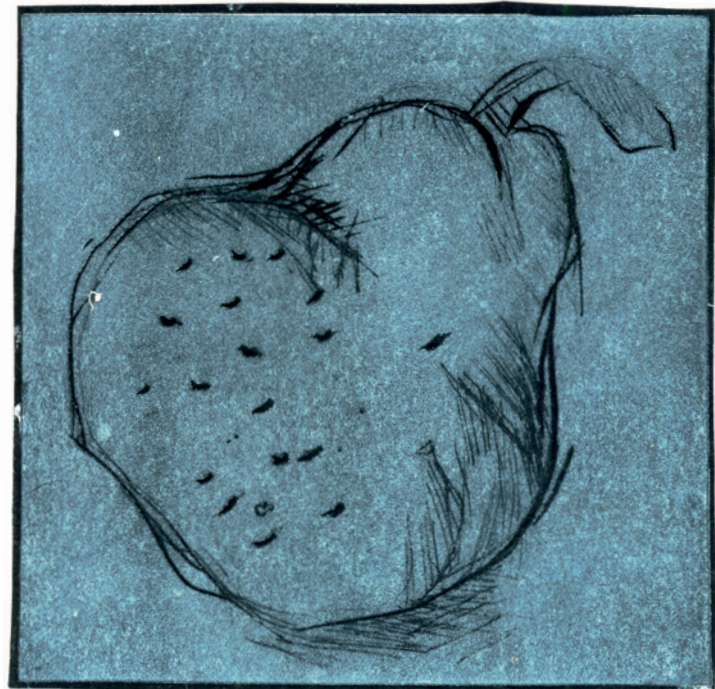
Till at teh last they felt their wing,
Mounted the trees, and learned to sing;



To regions far and left me quite



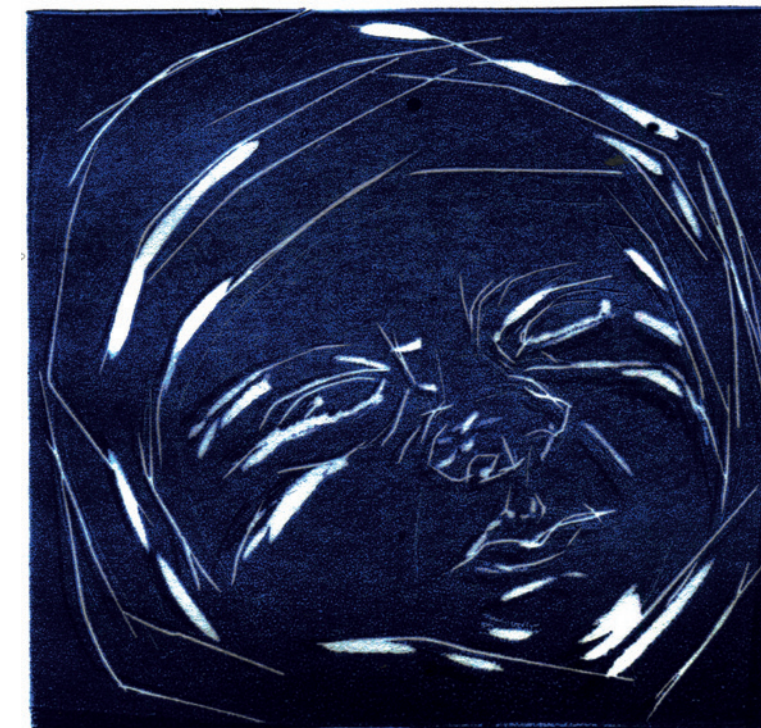
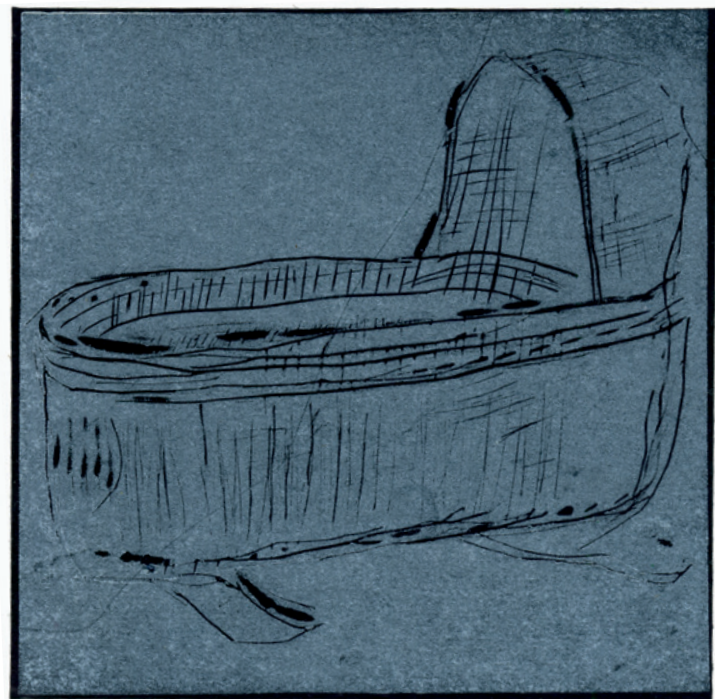
Alas, my birds, you wisdom want,
Of perils you are ignorant;



And where Aurora first appears,
She now hath perched to spend her years.



And from the top bough take my flight
Into a country beyond sight,



And nursed you up till you were strong,
And 'fore she once would let you fly,



Farewell, my birds, farewell adieu,
I happy am, if well with you.

Anne Bradstreet
(1612-1672)

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Anne Bradstreet is described as one of the earliest American feminists and poets. Her poetry and prose was written alongside her role as a devoted wife of her much loved husband and mother of their eight children.

In 1630 at 18 years of age, Anne arrived on the shores of Massachusetts Bay aboard the ship ‘Arabella’ having undertaken a three-month challenging and at times, dangerous voyage, across the Atlantic from England. Anne and her family were Puritans intent on practicing and accepting God’s will and all that that might entail. She and her family arrived in what was to become America, ten years after the Mayflower pilgrims.

Anne’s lively mind and her understanding and thinking about the world was not limited to being informed by the Bible but as a result of an advanced education by her own father, with access to an extensive library. Towards the end of her life she describes her earlier doubts and struggles with her faith arising from her passionate nature. Anne’s writing is concerned with the common events experienced by a woman of her time; fear of dying in childbirth, death of loved ones, the natural world, receiving letters from absent family. Anne writes directly, sensitively and touchingly about her reality as a puritan woman on the edge of a wilderness, producing work that still resonates nearly four centuries later.

Lines from the poem ‘*In Reference to her Children*’ (23 June 1659)
appear in this book.

Colophon

This is a digitally re-edited version of *An Ocean Apart*. Origianally printed and bound by Ann Chester King with guidance and support from Michael Honnor at the Dartington Print Workshop, Dartington Hall, Devon.

The images in this edition are scans from the original prints. The vinocut portraits were printed on Shogi 45gsm Japanese paper. The objects were printed using the chine collé method, whereby a vinocut was printed on dark hand coloured Shogi paper with white ink and bonded to Madrid 300gsm Litho paper.

The text font in this and the original edition is set in Baskerville.

