

Why I Wake Early

by Mary Oliver

Hello, sun in my face.

Hello, you who make the morning

and spread it over the fields

and into the faces of the tulips

5 and the nodding morning glories,

and into the windows of, even, the

miserable and crotchety—

best preacher that ever was,

10 dear star, that just happens

to be where you are in the universe

to keep us from ever-darkness,

to ease us with warm touching,

to hold us in the great hands of light—

15 good morning, good morning, good morning.

Watch, now, how I start the day

in happiness, in kindness.