

DEDICATION

THE ONE-WORD OWL

We're mysterious creatures,
Full of memorable features,
Hoo turn heads beyond our own!

With unique heart-shaped faces,
We hoot; then quickly change places,
Excluding friends and foul foes.

We're reputed to be wise,
But how's that truly surmised?
Since our query makes most leery.

A secret code? "Hoo Hoo" can say?
Feeling lonely? Expressing dismay?
Looking for prey? Trying to pray?

While our calls are echoing;
To those who hear us – beckoning,
Sadly, they are rarely replied.

If you could ask just one question,
A single word in succession,
What would that conundrum express?

What's after life? Will we survive?
Beyond this birth, will we revive?
Could knowing the soul be my goal?

Just ask "Hoo Hoo" then open your eyes!
Listen to what replies arise –
To life's existential question:
Hoo Hoo (am I)?*

* *The ancient Sanskrit Vedas from India state that human life begins when one sincerely asks the following three questions: "Who am I?" and "Where did I come from?" and "What is the purpose of my existence?"*

"Only the truth of who you are, if realized, will set you free." Eckhart Tolle