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## The Owl

Mardelle Fortier  
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# The Owl

Mardelle Fortier

Once  
late in the last century  
I saw an owl.  
His eyes watched wisely  
as though he had  
traveled to the caves  
of the moon and back.  
Carefully he blended  
with moon-glow and shadow.  
Quiet and intent,  
he perched  
alert to every whisper  
on the grass.  
And when he flew  
he seemed as graceful  
and indestructible  
as starlight.

That was the last  
owl I ever saw.