

## Bird and Man

By A. C. Zito

One day a bird came down from its high peak it pit stopped at every Saturday morning. It was a sycamore tree, and the bird loved it so. It had a fascination with it because it rested in the center of what all consider man. The high skyscrapers, the walkways and streets bustling with drivers and pedestrians. The noise of horns and the sound of man yelling to one another. The bird always hated their cries of anger, but the noise was all the bird felt it had in relating to man. Everything else was alien to the bird's world.

As it came down from the sycamore, it came down with great worry. The bird had always heard stories of man. Stories of hate; of violence; of murder; murder of not only man but of all. But still the bird came down anyway. It decided to perch next to a man sitting alone. The bird asked:

"Man, you tend to hurt me?" The man replied:

"I am one to only hurt when being attacked. Do you tend to hurt me, bird?" The bird replied:

"No. I came down from my sycamore tree because I want to be like you, man." The man looked the bird up and down before replying:

"A bird wanting to be a man? That's preposterous! Bird, you have wings, you can fly. A man can't. A man can only walk on his own two feet."

"That's what I want!" The bird immediately replied back, "I want my own two feet. I want to be able to walk and run just like you! A bird can't do these things. Why would I ever want to be a bird when I could be a man?" The man was speechless. Never has anyone asked him such a question. Then man asked:

"Bird, why is it that man wants to fly like bird, but bird wants to walk like man? Can't we both be happy with what we've got?" The bird hated how selfish man made the bird feel. The bird then cried out:

"I will never walk like man! Man is selfish! All I ever wanted was your legs! You can have my wings! Why would I want wings when I could have legs?" Man shook his head sadly at the bird while he replied:

"Why would I want wings when I'm already blessed as it is?" And man walked away while bird spit at man's name never to lust over man and his two legs again.