

THE  
LONELY LOON

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY  
MARGARET BALL OTTMAN



There once was a family of loons up in Maine,  
Who lived on a river - the St. Croix was its name.

They lived on this river for years on their own,  
Happy together in this place they called home.



Now this family of loons looked exactly the same  
As all of the other loons who lived up in Maine.

From the tips of their wings, to their beady, red eyes,  
From the ring round their necks, to their mournful loon cries.

Each loon looked the same as its father and mother,  
Its aunts and its uncles, its sisters and brothers.



Until one summer day, in the late afternoon,  
When this family was joined by a new baby loon.

But right from the start it was quite plain to see  
That the new loon was different from his large family.

It took them a minute to hide their surprise  
That he didn't have red, but two very blue eyes!