
Which Loved Best

by Joy Allison

"I love you Mother," said little John;
Then forgetting his work, his cap went on.
And he was off to the garden swing,
Leaving his mother the wood to bring.

"I love you Mother," said rosy Nell,
"I love you more than tongue can tell."
Then she teased and pouted full half the day.
Till her mother was glad when she went to play.

"I love you Mother," said little Fan,
"Today I'll help you all I can;
How glad I am that school doesn't keep!"
And she rocked the babe til he fell asleep.

Then stepping softly, she took the broom,
And swept the floor, and dusted the room.
Busy and happy all day was she;
Helpful and happy as a child could be.

"I love you Mother," again they said,
Three little children going to bed.
How do you think their mother guessed
Which of them really loved her best?