

for any ruffian of the sky
 your kingbird doesn't give a damn—
 his royal warcry is I AM
 and he's the soul of chivalry

in terror of whose furious beak
 (as sweetly singing creatures know)
 cringes the hugest heartless hawk
 and veers the vast most crafty crow

your kingbird doesn't give a damn
 for murderers of high estate
 whose mongrel creed is Might Makes Right
 —his royal warcry is I AM

true to his mate his chicks his friends
 he loves because he cannot fear
 (you see it in the way he stands
 and looks and leaps upon the air)