

## Who Was Your Inspiration?

*By Carole Gauntlett*

Was it a warm Mom and Dad?

Did you know how much they loved you  
Every minute of the day?

Did you feel how much they ached  
When they saw you on your way?

Did they listen to your questions  
And then show you to a book?  
Did they sit down beside you  
And show you how to look?

Was it an Affectionate Nanny?

Did she make you feel important  
No matter what you said?  
Did she listen to ideas  
That you made up in your head?

Did she take you to museums  
and the zoo to learn some science?  
Did she have you lead the way  
So you'd learn some self-reliance?

Was it Dedicated Teachers?

Did they praise your fumbling efforts  
And push you still to try?  
Did they smile and tease you happy  
Even knowing you were shy?

Did they brag to Mom and Dad  
About the great kid that you are?  
Did they promise that they knew  
That you were bound to go quite far?

Was it Adoring Grandparents?

Did they all get so excited  
Just to see your happy face?  
Did they beg to have you come  
And spend time at their place?

Did you know that if you needed them  
For any little thing  
That they'd be there in a minute  
And ask what they could bring?

Was it a Forgiving Friend?

Was he glad when you were happy

And sad when you cried?

Did he forgive that you hurt him

On the day that you lied?

Did he always keep your secrets

And share everything he had?

And whenever it was justified

Did he tell you he was mad?

They were ALL your inspiration

to have a kind and gentle heart

And to walk along with confidence

right from the very start.