

## **“ODE TO BELL ISLAND”**

**(My Home)**

*I watch her from a nearby shore  
Through misty eyes I see  
Her jagged cliffs, her rocky beach  
And grassy fields of green.*

*Then for a while time stands still  
And through different eyes now clear  
All at once I travel back  
Searching my memories there.*

*Memories of my childhood days  
Spent upon the Green  
Where life was good and happy then  
And we were oh so free!*

*Watching Mom at her daily work  
As the Miner's Whistle blew  
The children in our rocking chairs  
All was well, by her smile we knew.*

*Greeting the miners from below  
In their coats of iron ore red  
Thanking God for Dad's safe return  
As our daily prayers were said.*

*We felt so safe there in our home  
All was right in our little world  
But all too soon life would be changed  
For every boy and every girl.*

*The whistle stopped, the mines closed  
Families moved away  
I watched my friends leave their homes  
And I flash back to today.*

*Landing on her welcome shore  
I'm proud that I was part  
Of Bell Island's past and all she was  
As she soothes my aching heart.*

*She has a special fighting spirit  
That's kept her strong and true  
Generously giving of her natural wealth  
As she provided for me and you.*

*Yet, through it all she's regal still  
A sentinel in the sea  
Calling to all she's loved and known  
“Come back to visit me.”*

*So thank you my precious Island  
My home of childhood days  
Forget you, oh, I never would  
I carry you with me always!*

*I quietly close my longing eyes  
A mental journey to begin  
With a passion that's grown with years  
I am drawn to your shores again!*

*-Rosalind (Reardon) Pinsent*

