

May I Trouble You

by [Cristina Nehring](#) (June 2024)



Flock of Geese– Elizabeth Nourse, 1883

May I trouble you
with a burst of enthusiasm
this evening? I just
thought how sweet,
how singular, how fine,
and bold you are.
It's like a flock of birds
passing close overhead:
they make such
Happy Commotion.
Not that they're ever far,
the birds of my delight;
but tomorrow they may
sort themselves into
their respective nests,
all orderly and muted.
Tonight, they are aflutter,

and they sing, my dear, for you.

[Table of Contents](#)

Cristina Nehring published *The Child Who Never Spoke: 23 1/2 Lessons in Fragility* on October 24, 2023. She is also the author of *A Vindication of Love* which made the front page of the *New York Times Book Review* as well as two books in French. She writes for *Atlantic*, *Harper's*, the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*. She lives in Paris with her daughter.

Follow NER on Twitter [@NERIconoclast](#)