

# Eve's Last Flight



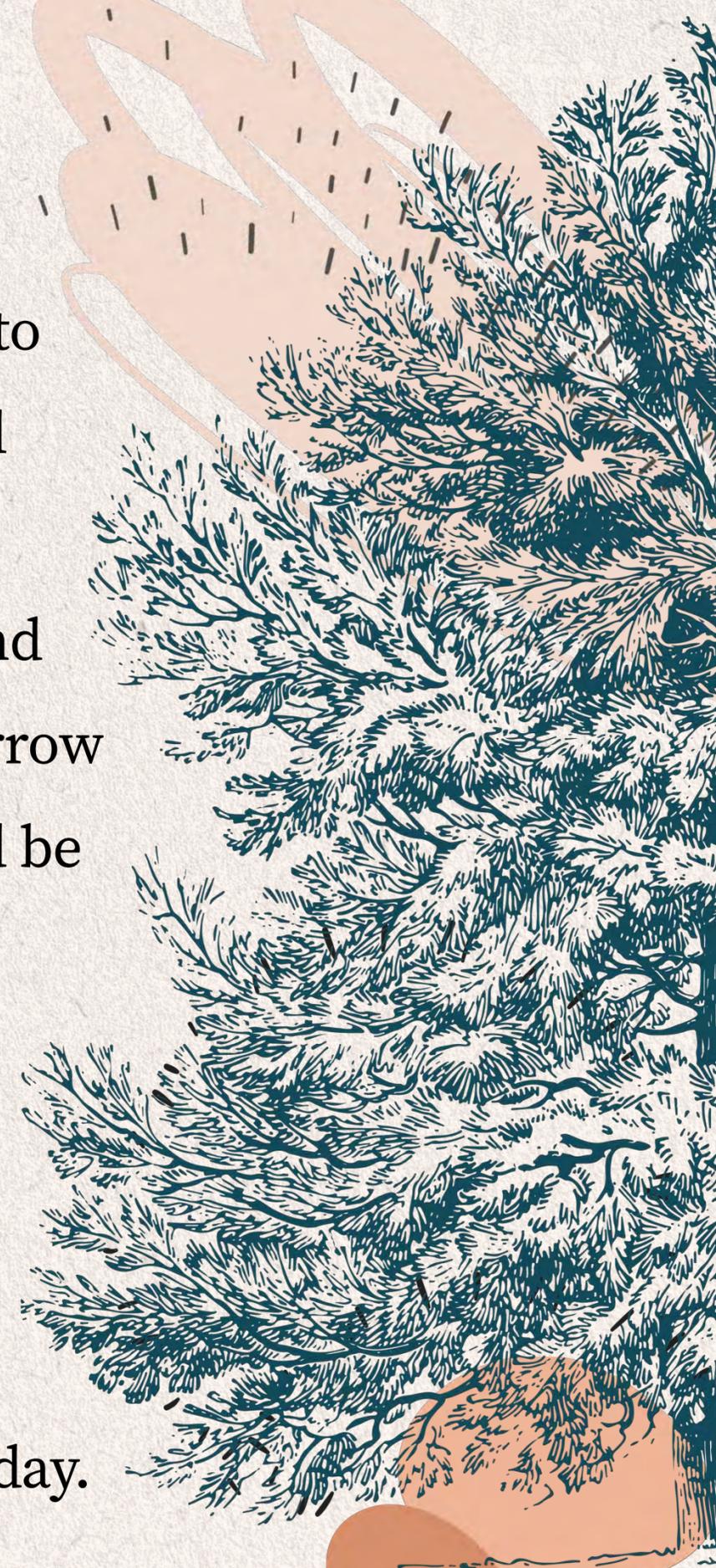
A Story of a Lincoln's Sparrow

## Foreword

The Lincoln's Sparrow, a bird, that like many, holds great significance to indigenous peoples. It is considered to be a messenger, both one who delivers to those who still walk the land, and a carrier of prayer from the peoples who still wander in the physical to any and all realities beyond.

Still, it is also a bird, an animal like all the rest of us who dwell in this grand land set apart only by ocean. As such, as are all birds, all animals, the Lincoln's Sparrow should also be thought of as an animal worthy of the respect that all life should be given as a basic right. This is where our project leads, but first, we begin with a narrative that chronicles the fictional journey, yet all too similar to reality, of a Lincoln's Sparrow named Eve.

The following story will guide you through her days and the chapters of life a Lincoln's Sparrow lives through. The cycle of a Lincoln's Sparrow is like that of many a feathered friend we share the world with, even down to their very last day.



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In a quiet northern meadow,  
a tiny Lincoln's Sparrow was born at dawn.  
Her parents named her Eve, after the first light of day.  
She grew up listening to the wind, learning the rhythm of rivers, and the stories of the trees.  
One day, she landed near a young girl named Nayeli, who lived with her family  
on the land her ancestors had walked for generations.  
Nayeli told Eve,  
*"My Grandma says birds carry messages between Earth and Sky."*  
Eve didn't understand the words,  
but something inside her heart  
fluttered like a soft drumbeat.



That fall, Eve joined the long migration south.  
She flew over forests, rivers, and mountains,  
her wings following the shape of the wind.  
She missed her home but birds, like rivers, return.  
When spring came again, she flew back north.  
But the meadow was smaller.  
The trees were gone.  
And in their place stood glass walls that looked like sky.  
Still, Eve was tired and hopeful.  
She saw a tree reflected in the glass, a place to rest.  
She never saw the window.





Nayeli found Eve lying below the building,  
still as a stone, small as a breath.

She knelt beside her and whispered:

*“Your spirit has flown home, little one.*

*You will sing among the stars now.”*

That evening, Nayeli and her grandmother sang a blessing,  
offering cedar and sweetgrass

to guide Eve’s spirit back into the sky.

They buried her under a flowering bush  
and marked the place with a single feather.



Nayeli now places stickers on her windows,  
so other birds can see the truth behind the glass.  
She tells her friends at school:  
“Even small lives carry big messages.”  
And every spring,  
when she hears a Lincoln’s Sparrow sing,  
she stops and listens because some songs,  
like some spirits,  
never truly leave us.





*The End*

# *Window Collisions: a true threat*

Every year, as many as one billion birds die in the United States after colliding with windows. Most strikes are fatal, even when a bird seems to fly away, and window collisions are now one of the leading causes of bird deaths linked to humans. The story of the Lincoln's Sparrow is one of millions-and it reminds us that we have the power to help, whether by making windows safer, reducing nighttime lights, or spreading awareness.

The number of birds, such as the Lincoln Sparrow, that are killed by window collisions each year can be as high as 230,000 a year. These numbers can appear big and frightening, but there is hope in how we can prevent the deaths of these precious birds. Actions are being done, such as in producing bird-safe glass or placing decals on the windows just like Nayeli did in the story.

In remembering Nayeli's story, we can prevent the death of birds so their songs can continue to guide our paths in this life.

## **References:**

**Davidoff, Jasper. "Window Strikes Are Even Deadlier For Birds Than We Thought"  
Audubon Magazine, August 14th 2024.**

**<https://www.audubon.org/magazine/window-strikes-are-even-deadlier-birds-we-thought>**



# How we can help

As mentioned in Davidoff's article, birds like the Lincoln sparrow are killed by window collisions. The numbers can be as high as 230,000 a year. These numbers can appear big and frightening, but there is hope in how we can prevent the deaths of these precious birds. Actions are being done like producing bird-safe glass or placing decals on the windows just like Nayeli did in the story.

Like Nayeli the story, we can prevent the death of birds so their songs can continue to guide our paths in this life.

