

## ROLE MODEL

*Stephen Baily*

Consider the fruit fly,  
A very astute fly.  
Although its existence is short,  
It makes a long ball of it  
By lavishing all of it  
On kisses and similar sport.

It enters the house on bananas or apples  
Or maybe on grapes. Just a couple of couples  
Begin things, but after some spirited grapples  
A new set debuts and the company triples.

Consider the fruit fly.  
Okay, it's no cute fly,  
But so what? Its head is on straight.  
It scorns the priorities  
Of priggish authorities  
And makes love from first light till late.

Throughout the night too it woos on without scruples.  
Gestation is brief, so its crew soon quadruples.  
Moreover, the young prove such purposeful pupils  
They're quick to take part and the total octuples.

Look then to the fruit fly  
And no substitute fly  
If living's an art you would master.  
For what bug, brute or man  
Gets out of life more than  
*Drosophila melanogaster*?

"Role Model" © 2007 by Stephen Baily

*Contemporary Rhyme* Vol. 4 No. 4 2007