

THE LUCKY CHARM

Stephen Baily

Not too long after Oswald shot Kennedy dead
A new fifty-cent piece stamped with Kennedy's head
Got the nod in D.C. to be circulated
By the several federal mints.

Among those taken with these coins when they appeared
Was my father, who gave me one "for good luck"—weird
Though that may sound. The old man was even prepared
With a blessing for my fifty cents.

"Kid, as long as you have this you'll never be broke,"
He said gravely. I laughed. To me it was a joke
And I spent it the first time I needed a smoke
Like a schmuck. I've been broke ever since.

"The Lucky Charm" © 2007 by Stephen Baily

Contemporary Rhyme Vol. 4 No. 3 2007