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Aseidad "The Gift/driftwood"

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A poor orphan girl named Maria Was walking to market one day She stopped for to rest by the roadside Where a bird with a broken wing lay A few moments passed till she saw it For it's feathers were covered with sand And soon cleaned and wrapped it was traveling In the warmth of Maria's small hand

She happily gave her last peso On a cage made of rushes and twine She fed it loose corn from the market And watched it grow stronger with time

Now the gift-giving service was coming And the church shone with tinsel and light And all of the townfolk brought presents To lay by the manger that night

There where diamonds, incense and perfumes And packages fit for a king But for one ragged bird in a small cage Maria had nothing to bring

She waited till just before midnight So no one would see her go in And crying she knelt by the manger For her gift was unworthy of him

Then a voice spoke to her through the darkness "Maria, what brings you to me? If the bird in the cage is your offering Open the door, let me see"

So she trembled, she did as he asked her And out of the cage the bird flew Soaring up into the rafters On a wing that had healed good as new

Just then the midnight bells rang out And the little bird started to sing A song that no words could recapture For it's beauty was fit for a king

Now Maria felt blessed just to listen To that cascade of notes sweet and long As her offering was lifted to heaven By the very first nightingale's song

(Stephanie Davis) \hat{A} [©] 1990 EMI Blackwood Music Inc. and Beartooth Music. All Rights Controlled and administered by EMI Blackwood Music Inc. (BMI)

Guitar and accordion: Gordie Sampson Violin: Bruce Dukov Cello: Larry Corbett Oboe and flute: Jon Clarke Violin, cello, oboe and flute arranged and Conducted by David Campbell

ORCHESTRA Leader: David Campbell Orchestra Contractor: Suzie Katayama Violin: Bruce Dukov (concertmaster), Darius Campo, Susan Chatman, Mario De Leon, Berj Garabedian, Peter Kent, Rachel Purkin, Michelle Richards, Mark Robertson Viola: Evan Wilson, Kazi Pitelka, Denyse Buffum, Matt Funes Cello: Larry Corbett, Dan Smith Bass: David Stone Woodwinds: Jon Clarke

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