

## **Lori McKenna**

# **"Paper Wings & Halo"**

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"Mary is an angel"  
Says a five year old's wide eyes  
"You are the oldest person I've ever seen"  
Mary sighs

"These are the wings  
I made you so you can fly  
When you get to heaven  
Tell my grandmother I said 'Hi'"

She's on the fifth floor balcony  
She sees heaven closer than us  
She knows that God is watching  
She knows that she can always trust  
Her paper wings and halo

Mary is a full care resident on her last days  
They feed her pills and oatmeal  
She's set in her ways  
Mary was born in England in 1904  
She married young and had five children  
And all but one died before her

She's on the fifth floor balcony  
She sees heaven closer than us  
She knows that God is watching  
She knows that she can always trust  
Her paper wings and halo

Mary is tired of waiting  
She is almost there  
Mary knows she could fly  
She could fly  
If she could get out  
Of that damn chair

Mary talks about her children  
When they were young  
"You remind me of my grandchild  
Loving life and having fun"

Mary's time is coming

And she's not afraid  
Mary is a good woman  
And she loved the life that she made  
That she made

She's on the fifth floor balcony  
She knows heaven awaits her now  
She knows that God is calling  
And when it's time to fly  
She'll know how  
With her paper wings and halo

"Mary is an angel"  
Says a five year old's wide eyes  
"You are the oldest person I've ever seen"  
Mary smiles

"These are the wings  
I made you so you can fly  
When you get to heaven  
Tell my mother I said 'Hi'"

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