

THINKSDAY

## *Show and Tell*

May 7, 2026

*Whose disguise is this, I think I know  
His house is in the hemlocks though,  
His calls arrest as he spies me near  
**His feathers emerged from recent snow.***

*My wife thinks it's a little bit queer  
That I use my camera so I might hear,  
—“The sounds of birds—for heaven's sake!”  
There are more ways to learn than just eye and ear.*

*Too quick to assume, too easy to mistake  
A judgement once made is hard to shake  
Oh, the biases our hearts implore us not to keep  
Yet, still shallow wisdoms we settle to make.*

*To know someone true, we must look and listen long and deep  
To uncover thoughts and aches they want to secret keep  
And behold what hopes and fears may rule their sleep  
And love what sorrows and joys may rule their sleep.*

*I make no pretense that this is anything but larceny. I obviously built this reflection on the frame and diction of Frost's well-known “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening.” It may not be as obvious that the theme is also shamelessly lifted from another favorite Frost poem: “Revelation.”*

### **Revelation — Robert Frost**

*We make ourselves a place apart  
Behind light words that tease and flout,  
But oh, the agitated hear  
Till someone find us really out.*

*‘Tis pity if the case require  
(Or so we say) that in the end  
We speak the literal to inspire*

*The understanding of a friend.*

*But so with all, from babes at play  
At hide-and-peek to God afar,  
So all who hide too well away  
Must speak and tell us where they are.*

***Happy Thinksday***