

Window-View Message

A grey, dismal evening sky
unlike other evenings'
delightfully soothing displays
of pastel pink, violet, blue
blent seamlessly together
behind a row of leafless
seemingly lifeless trees
a little distance away . . .

Alas, hope for the evening's
beauteous splash dashed!
Ah! a visitor flew in . . .
into the foreground
a redbird alighted
on the black, horizontal bar
of the metal fence gate
Breath-taking!

A view picture perfect
flawlessly window-framed
featuring felicitously
a fleeting visitor
perched serenely
on a black metal bar
his vivid flame-red plumage
vibrant against this evening's
grey, colorless sky
his bright yellow-red beak beamed
against his black bib and mask
his head held high
turned this way, then that
his pointed crest
fluttering in the breeze . . .



A symbol, they say, of

beauty amidst darkness
hope amidst sorrow
renewal amidst winter's chill
They say, too, *cardinals appear
when angels are near.*
And so . . .
when skies are grey and grim
scan well the foreground
for the brilliant cardinal
flitting, alighting
however fleetingly.
- "Cheer, cheer, cheer!"*

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[*one of the sound patterns that cardinals make]

