### **First Peoples Child & Family Review**

An Interdisciplinary Journal Honouring the Voices, Perspectives, and Knowledges of First Peoples through Research, Critical Analyses, Stories, Standpoints and Media **Reviews** 

## **A New Beginning**

**Raven Sinclair** 

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### Volume 6, Number 1, 2011, p. 9

# **A New Beginning**

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My heart hangs on a willow in the East exposed to the scrutiny of the four winds revealing my grief to the four directions While I sit, heartless, in the arms of my lover and weep.

My heart dangles up high Red in the wind, twisting, turning to the morning, noon, and night. Grandmothers gather 'round to inspect and nod, clucking knowingly. Their love is a prayer not a release.

My heart is a stone that swings in a willow turning in the four winds crying out in the cold and dark weeping the pain and grief of a lifetime saving me from a cruel and untimely death that resembles a life of loss.

Questions or correspondence concerning this poem may be addressed directly to: Raven Sinclair Email: <u>raven.sinclair@sasktel.net</u> My heart is a stone, A pebble in a red cloth bag Bobbing high in a willow Slowly turning to the 4 directions in the light and the dark A cold, frightened warrior that pebble, that is my heart.

My heart was a stone which I placed high in a willow on the 2nd last day of a long and short journey. That cold, frightened warrior, she died peacefully in the night.

Today I shall reclaim her body for a tender return to Mother Earth.

Sealing a prayer and an offering for a new beginning and another life.