

**Kitty's Rambling House ©Ann Dalton**

A jumble of knick-knacks.  
a series of hooks that hold the cracked cups,  
glued together now,  
longing for lips that once caressed their porcelain rims.  
Patterns that hold idle chit chat,  
juicy village gossip,  
raised voices and frantic whispers!  
Tears, once colliding with a hot brew  
eroding the insides.  
Brown stains hinting at a life less glamorous than this.....

Plate stacked upon plate,  
revealing only the curved edges of life.  
A pheasant, all regal and poised  
disguising its vulnerability,  
Instead answering to 'cocky so and so'!  
A pair of jugs  
that once danced from 'half empty' to 'half full'  
sitting now like a pair of 'ole tarts  
with ne'er a blush left between them!

Two ceramic doves,  
barely visible amid the clutter,  
once fluttered around the kitchen table  
whispering sweet forget-me-nots in subtle smiles.

The obligatory horseshoe

that once adorned the finest hoof,

hanging now on a solitary nail,

bearing the burden of luck on its empty shoulders.

The four wooden egg cups

that endured life's hardships without as much as a crack.

One has to look closely to see the faded butterfly on each.....