

Sparrow and Mockingbird Greet the Dawn

by Mathew Paust

A startling **chip!**
whip-crack so near
it tickles the hairs in my ear
a couple more
wakes the nearby songbird

Then I, too, see the feathered waves of tangerine peach
edging shyly into the lucid blue above the towering crown
of the pine down Sunday-empty Main by the old Walker house

Synchronized in Sol salute
this odd duet segues soon
to intraspecies courtship
but now it's **chip!**...*doodlytweedlyeedledeeddly...*
chip!...*deedledoodletweetytweetytweetydoodle...*

Baton taps, and arpeggios fill the air
rests noted, observed until
baton taps, arpeggios trill

