

## The Fiery Flame II

*Along the darkened path of life  
I found a match of great delight.  
I held it gently in my hands  
Then stuck it quickly, giving light.*

*The flame was large, beyond degree  
Filling me with awe and fright  
I cupped the flame to keep it lit,  
But watched it dwindle in my sight.*

*As it consumed the wooden stick  
The heat soon changed to searing pain.  
I would not drop the precious flame.  
And knew we'd burn ourselves away.*

*I sought out others for advice,  
To keep the flame from going out.  
I gave it fuel to burn once more,  
That it should fail, I did not doubt.*

*I coaxed the embers, fanned the flames  
And soon it burned for all to see.  
The flame it was, yet not the same  
Then something changed, in it and me.*

*The flame consumed my very soul  
And cleansed me in its own pure light  
The boy I was had burned away  
Thus making me a different sight*

*I touched the earth and heard her voice  
She whispered to me; knew my name  
"Dear child, don't weep; those deeds are done."  
"Your life now burns within my flame."*

*"I've placed my trust within you now,"  
"Protect me as you would your life."  
I rose up, then, and dried my eyes.  
I vowed to change a world of strife.*

*Some people changed, one at a time  
Though most refused to change their ways  
I never faltered; never failed  
My flame burned brightly all my days.*

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