

For Mary

And the memory I have
of a willowy blond
standing between two
goateed guitar players,
belting out a song,
her lovely long hair
tossing in all directions.

Tall and strong,
defiant and unafraid..
she sings with such urgency
and conviction..
like an angry flower
deprived of vital nutrients,
bending to one microphone,
then the other,
right fist clinched
and held close.
On a silken rampage,
tossing that hair..
making Pete Seeger proud.
It's the hammer of justice.
It's the bell of freedom....
and she really believes it,
and makes us believe it too.

Larry W. Allen