Grace Bedell

by Kathleen Wiley

My name is Grace Bedell and I’m the reason
All of Abe Lincoln’s face you’re not seeing...
He responded to a letter I wrote...
I changed the face of history with my one vote....

CHORUS:
Grace Grace
You changed history’s face
With whiskers that hid
A face that was too thin
Grace Grace
It’s never a disgrace
To act on inspiration
And we think that’s what you did...
Now I was just a little girl about eleven....
Hoping I would someday meet a President.....
Then I saw Abe Lincoln’s face...and knew my duty...
I must rescue that face from harsh scrutiny...
For he was a candidate for President
Everywhere that he went, laughter went...
He was wise but not a polished politician...
It looked to me as if the cards were stacked against him...

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You see I had 4 brothers who all wore beards...
And when I looked at Lincoln’s face ...it was as I feared...
His face was long and oh so extremely thin....
I thought perhaps that whiskers might help him win...
And so I wrote a letter and I told him so...
He wrote back, I thought just to tell me no...
But when he came to our town he asked for me...
And ever after I was a celebrity....

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"Where’s little Grace Bedell? Why, little Grace,
"See these whiskers that are now upon my face?
"I grew them just for you..." he said to me...
So I’m the reason that face is the one you see.
He said it was a Christmas wish he could not deny...
He wore the whiskers that I chose the rest of his life...
The years roll on and time’s erased the beardless face...
And what looks out from history books is because of Grace!!!

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