THOMAS ALVA EDISON

by Kathleen Wiley

"Turn the light on..." says Thomas Edison
"Turn the light on...It’s dark in here..
Turn the light on..." says Thomas Edison
"With the light on, there’s nothing to fear...."

Thomas Alva Edison was an inventor
Called the Wizard of Menlo Park....
He spent his days and nights making up inventions
To bring many people out of the dark....

3 months of formal schooling was all that he had
Because he put the teacher under a strain...
He asked so many questions that the teacher got mad
And told his mother Tom had addled brains.

Now, his mother thought we all should have a
So she taught him with amusing games....
And Tom’s curiosity started him on a path...
Inventing for America’s gain...

So...."Turn the light on..." says Thomas Edison
"Turn the light on...It’s dark in here..
Turn the light on..." says Thomas Edison
"With the light on, there’s nothing to fear...."

In trying to invent the incandescent light
We know his duties he would never shirk
He said "I’m not discouraged...Why, I haven’t failed...
I’ve found 10,000 ways that wouldn’t work...."

The electric light and phonograph were finally invented
Then he improved what others did...
The typewriter, telephone and motion pictures
Are a few inventions on that list...

But Thomas Alva Edison at 67
Watched his factory go up in flames...
He said " Go get your mother. Have her get her friends...
They’ll never see a fire like this again...."

So...."Turn the light on..." says Thomas Edison
"Turn the light on...It’s dark in here..
Turn the light on..." says Thomas Edison
"With the light on, there’s nothing to fear...."

Soon Henry Ford appeared and he had in his hand a check
He handed it to Tom and said, "Here.
A check for seven hundred fifty thousand dollars
When you need more, you know where to get it."
And thus we see a friendship so uncommon and so pure
Respect was what each other felt
Their interest in America’s future was a way
They helped each other to use their wealth...

So he rebuilt attaining 1,093 patents that we now can see...
And his determination and courage are what he left
A legacy to you and to me....

"So just turn the light on..." says Thomas Edison
"Turn the light on...It’s dark in here..
Turn the light on..." says Thomas Edison
"With the light on, there’s nothing to fear...."
"With the light on, there’s nothing to fear...."
"With the light on, there’s nothing to fear...."