

# Two Poems on the Passing of the Queen

by [Paul Martin Freeman](#) (October 2022)



*Life Guards*, Edward Bawden, RA, 1953

## **The Nation's Heart**

The Nation's heart has passed away,  
A loving grandmother to all.  
And now it's for her son we pray  
Whom Charles the Third we'll learn to call.

But will he fill that vital space  
Elizabeth has left behind?  
For peerless was her poise and grace,  
This pinnacle of womankind.

## **Waiting in Line**

They wait in line to view the royal coffin;  
The casket spells the end of all they've known.  
And time, they somehow feel, will never soften  
That awful sense that now they're on their own.

No longer will her presence reassure them  
That all is well however things appear.  
The world, they fear, is changing fast before them,  
And what she stood for soon will disappear.

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