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 New York: Dover, 1979

KIND HEARTS AND BLIND SPOTS

Mrs. Roosevelt, I do wonder.
 About that silver fox.
 You were so perfect, kind and good,
 But somehow about wild creatures
 You never quite understood.
 But I believe if you had listened with
 Your gentle heart,
 As you did for blacks, children and
 Other victims of custom,
 That *neckpiece* you would have jettisoned.
 Little foxes and others would have had a
 Fresh start—
 A life of freedom; better yet, left unborn
 If their sad fate
 Was to adorn
 Another First Lady, housewife, T.V.-movie star.
 Those strangely blind
 To what happens afar . . .

Ann Cottrell Free

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