Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

These lines were not written primarily as a poem, but as a hymn to be sung to the tune of "Gottschalk." As such it has been sung in churches hereabouts.

A number of people - servicemen and parents - have expressed a feeling of comfort from this setting of the old hymn. So, I am giving it to you in the hope that perhaps it may bring to your busy life a moment of comfort, or even to that of your distinguished and heavily burdened husband.

Most sincerely,

[Signature]
HOME FOLKS' PRAYER

Holy Father, friend unseen
Be thou near us when we pray
Faltering on thine arm we lean,
Lead from darkness into day.

In this time of strife and pain
Give from doubts and fears release
Faith renew in us again
Guide us to a perfect peace.

Guard our sons, O God, we pray
When in peril they may be
Shield them, Father, night and day
On land, in air, and on the sea.