

Spot Illustration


This is an illustration used primarily to accompany text, but not as large as a feature illustration.

The objective was to execute an illustration that's referencing its accompanying text. The text is from the poem "Caged Bird", by Maya Angelou. As the bird in the poem is imprisoned the spot mimics this with the text of the poem surrounding the illustration.

Maya Angelou (1928-2014) - "Caged Bird"

A free bird leaps
on the back of the wind
and floats downstream
till the current ends
and dips his wing
in the orange sun rays
and dares to claim the sky.
But a bird that stalks
down his narrow cage
can seldom see through
his bars of rage
his wings are clipped and
his feet are tied

so he opens his
The caged
with a
of things
but longed
and his tune
on the
for the
throat to sing.
bird sings
fearful trill
unknown
for still
is heard
distant hill
caged bird
sings of freedom.



The free bird thinks of another breeze
and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees
and the fat worms waiting on a dawn-bright lawn
and he names the sky his own

But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams
his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream
his wings are clipped and his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings
with a fearful trill
of things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill
for the caged bird
sings of freedom.