

*[Reading the children's book 'Why Can't I tickle myself?' I learned of the impossibility of tickling oneself and the following words played around my head ..... ]*

### ***Tickled Fears***

I wonder ... can you help me solve a mystery;  
I want to find a way that I could tickle me!  
Around my middle, armpits, or behind my knee,  
So I could laugh at all those things which frighten me

When bangs come after lightning in a thunderstorm,  
I'd laugh my fears away with just one touch of 'tum'.

And in the creepy dark when shadows move about  
I'd giggle under the duvet till the day's about.

Big dogs who meet me in the park will run away  
Like those stray cats who hate the fine-rose water spray;  
They'll think there's lots of wild hyenas in the park;  
My laugh will send them running scared - too scared to bark!

A little tickle when I'm in the dentist's chair,  
While whining, whirling drilly noises fill the air,  
Just one small poke, I'll touch my finger at my side,  
There'd be no need for her to say, *Please open wide!*  
I'd laugh so loud that every single tooth would show  
While every niggling fear of mine would leave pronto.

But, I don't really know why I can't tickle me ..  
I thought perhaps you'd help me solve the mystery!