DRAWING NIGHTINGALES

First of all I'd like to say that this is NOT the definitive way to draw birds, let alone Nightingale's. This is just a way for you to get started; whether you enjoy drawing and just haven't drawn birds (or drawn in this way) or if you have never drawn before - have a go!
You'll notice my reference photo doesn't matchg my drawings - I ended up making mine up after loking at various different bird poses (and test to see if this technique works!)..
So use this photo, or any image of a Nightingale (or any bird!) you find to draw your own, and then see where that takes you...

Start by drawing a circle for the head, and an egg-shaped oval for the torso. Keep them close, but not touching, and add a little line where the eyes and beak will go so you know where your bird is looking.

Sketch direction lines for the neck (where the spine would be), wings, and tail. These will help inform the rest of your drawing.

Add the eye(s) and beak where you first marked them, and create the neck from the width of the head to the torso. My spine mark has helped with this shape..

I've added the curving lines of the body from the neck, fattening her up a bit to show off her plump belly.

I darkened and curved off the wing lines now, which show the top line of the wings against the birds back, darkened the eye and added feet. The legs can be funny depending on your angle, but in general they start from where the tail meets the torso. They're surprisingly long and remember the knees bend the other way!

Now add in lines to detail: rounded lines for the shoulders, lines for the feathers below those curves (you don't need many, unless you want more detail), and bulk out the legs and feet.

To fly, to swoop, to soar, and sing...

Never doubt the hope a little Nature can bring.

Jx

And now just finish it off with any details you want to add!
I shaded the back of mine (as I noticed the nightingale's chest and belly are quite a light shade), and drew in some lines for a branch so it wasn't floating in space.
Once you have your drawing why not add something else like a poem or piece of prose?
I've never written poetry myself (I'm sure you can tell!), but in the spirit of trying something new I wrote down something that popped into my head as I was drawing birds.

What do Nightingale's mean to you? How do birds inspire you right now as we're "cooped" up inside?
Find little ways to connect with Nature, she's the ultimate healer.