



Trapdoor Spider

by Erin Zampaglione

You won't see me by the tuffet,
you won't find me up the spout.
I'd much rather stay inside today
instead of going out.

Though I'm not a storyteller,
it's a tangled web I weave.
I won't give you superpowers,
I'd prefer it if you leave.

Please don't call me "Son of Genius".
"Noiseless, patient" would be fair:
if I want you in my parlour...
You won't know until you're there!

Note: "Son of Genius" is a quotation from Emily Dickinson's poem 'The Spider as an Artist'. "Noiseless, patient" is a quotation from Walt Whitman's poem 'A Noiseless Patient Spider'. What other references to stories, books and songs can you find in Erin's poem?

