

2024 Youth Poetry Contest Submissions



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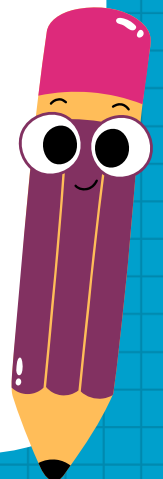
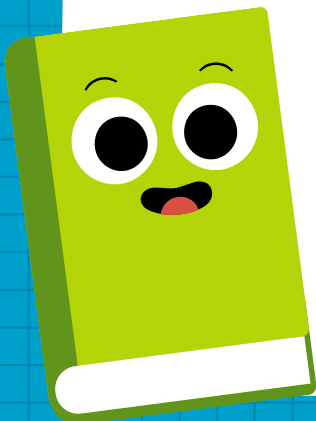
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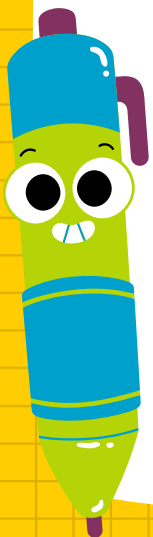
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My Little Hummingbird (A Reverse Poem)

My little hummingbird
Sweet as honey nectar
She flies past my window
With her pretty colors
The last of light disappears
In my little garden of flowers
She seemed to sit there watching me
As I sit and watch from afar
Staring at her beautiful wings.

Material of a Poem

A poem is like a quilt, commonly threaded into two or
three layers
Stanzas stacked up and down, weaved into one singular
shape
It's words are the fabric, woven and stitched letters of
squares
Those words not belonging to only you and I, but also
many others

Similes are the thread, holding the words in place
They give meaning and purpose to seemingly bland
connections
Like a seasoning on a well cooked meal, the two need
one another
Their consistency keeping them in a tied nought of
relations

The needle that makes a poem is influenced by the writer
All connections are made by hand, but thought in the
mind
Feelings soak into the fabric, giving them colors
Threads tighten and lock into place, finding their resting
point that fits them

That quilt is then used, whether it be for comfort or
protection
Although it is passed down, the meanings misunderstood
or unknown
The colors fade, thread loosens, fabric degrades, and a
new weaver comes
More fabric is found, more thread is made, and a new
needle is bought

Summit

The seduction of the highway
makes me slip off the mountain

The string of grapes --
perfectly at my reach

The unwieldy baggage
that I cannot bring up the trail

My tears blur my vision
Maybe the fruit fills me enough

Sometimes soap stings more than the scrape
though the petrichor of cleanliness is unmatched

So I hold onto the map
and the inscribed belief --
that arrival at the summit
will be worth it in the end

It All Begins With a Seed

It all begins with a seed—
An inkling of hope
A tidbit of memory
Primordial instinct so engrained in the mind
Deep within the genetics
Of what and who you are
And
Who and what it is.
So youthful, so delicate
A now fragile taproot
Worms its way into the soil
Investigating the only home it will ever know
Stretching out into a large mass beneath the dirt
That we will never see.
A sprout develops—
Funny how it knows to reach for the sun
That ever life-giving
Source of energy
Breathing warmth into everything it can.
A small shoot hesitantly grows
Through the debris and mud surrounding it
Two cotyledons bloom—

Absorbing the sunlight
With the broad,
Green leaves
Supporting the little, innocent creature
Like an umbrella
Shading it from all things scary and carrying it
Softly
Into opportunity.
The foliage is bouncy and springy—
Full of youth
But
The plant changes out of its childish clothes
And steps into its adult robes
As the true leaves form:
Long veiny masses of fluffy green—
Arrow-shaped
Pointy
Arguing,
Bumping into one another
Each searching for a spotlight of sun...
A spotlight of life.
Soon,
A small
Thin
Floppy

Green stalk stretches out of the feathery vegetation
Alone
Bare
Standing in the sun
So unsure of how to stay supported
And strong,
Not flimsy.
Days pass
And the stem finally has learned
To stay steady in the breeze
But still sway with the
Wind—
Because the winds are changing
New life is near—
Unbeknownst to the rest of the world,
Kept secret yet
Smiling:
A small head forms underneath an emerald blanket
Worth more than jewels.
The emerging flower is
Pillowly and soft
Gentle
The new growth more
Bright
And overpowering than the sun
Yellow...

Hopeful.
Soon, though,
The sunshine fades—
Recedes
Into a puffy sphere
Of
Fluffy feathers:
Seeds
And each one floats on the breeze
Somehow finding their way
Back to the ground
Back to the very same dirt it was born in
Nestling into the soil like a finch in a nest
The fuzzy plume sprawled out
Behind them,
Something deep in their soul telling them
This is the way
Of life
Of sun
Of leaves and flowers and
Fluff—
This is the way life
All begins with a
Seed

Daisies

Daisies grow at the edge of our yard
Around the oak trees
Your hands always worked hard
To make me feel like me
Blackness around your fingers
As you plant the found
Of my dreams
And you water the seeds of a greater fantasy
Where I just get to know you
And say it
Again
Again.

Guilt + reflections

Looking in the puddle

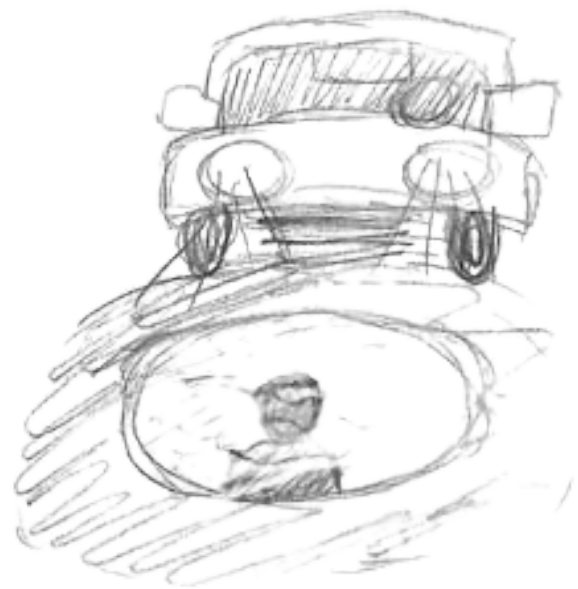
I saw my reflection
Someone who I used to be
Staring back at me

It's not me though

It's a ghost
a ghost of a person
who did something horrible

but that's not me,
not anymore
not ever again
I forgave myself

They "forgave" me too
why do they still
seem so distant
drifting away



fading away

It's on and off trust
like they believe
I'll snap as easily as
a branch in a storm

Scars

Scars are like life

When someone cuts deep
It makes a wound
That wound bleeds and bleeds

Overtime the body will repair that wound
But will it go away?
No,

It turns into a scar
Distorted, raised, defected
It's noticeable,

The scar may never go away
It stays on the body
But every scar has a story

Good or bad,
We all have scars,
From the words, thoughts, and meanings from others
on our skin or on the inside

Scars are like life

You and Me

As strong and thick as steel was our bond,
Trust built as if both known since birth,
Thoughts like they came from the same mind,

But yet still did you yield a mighty force strong enough to

shatter it all,
Our bond,
Our trust,
Our **friendship**,

Shattered as if it was the titanic,
The sea being your anger,

Absorbing anything that comes in path of your **heart**,
Yet here do I stay swimming through it all,
Pleading and praying for you to listen to me,
Not listening nor even caring you do,
But the thoughts saying to give up and find shore,

I live to ignore,

The true you is what I shall fight to find,

Our bond,
Our trust,
Our **friendship**,
It all will be restored,
And **I** will be the one to do it.

Sunshine

sunshine shining on down
making me oh so happy
with its warm blanket wrapped around me
in the sun suddenly i'm care free
no more worries or frowns
only positivity around

with each sunrise comes a new day
a day of potential
a day of hope
a day of love
a day of life

Spring

New growth on the trees,
A mother fox with her kits,
Finally, it's spring

Ode to Summer Camp

Dear summer, I miss you right now
Without you I try to live my life but i don't quite know how
Right now, I'm sitting in my chair at school but i'd rather
be with you

Life with you is just so bright
When i'm with you, i live without a fright

I'd give anything for my life to just be long summers
And the fact i'm not there right now is just a big bummer
Everyone is "in love" but you're my one real lover
Since i'm not there, i will dream of you in my slumber

It's been a while since i've seen you
But, I've learned something new!
Even though it's been a while
Instead of being sad when i think of you, i smile
Waiting for you is actually quite exciting!
I can't wait until i see you, i can almost see you shining

Ode to Adults

Oh, the people of age
Time has just flown by
Though growing up is a cage
It will happen, no lie

The fun never ends
Though it feels as such
It just extends
Decision is in our touch

Many positives happen
And some negatives too
Growing up, it happens
But we'll be there for you

Family Villanelle

Pennies are many
My mom got a box
Ask my bestie

Brother got pennies
I got chicken pox
Pennies are many

Siblings are plenty
I saw a fox
Ask my bestie

I almost stayed steady
My sister plays with blocks
Pennies are many

My brother has a friend named Lennie
My brother does not clean his socks
Ask my bestie

NY is kind of lucky
My mom always puts the locks
Pennies are many
Ask my bestie

Ode to Bread

Oh my soft bred
My one true love
So soft and sweet
You have definitely been sent from heaven above
Bread so soft but crisp

I turn to you no matter the meal
Breakfast,dinner
And even midday

Oh soft bred the brand matters not
I'll love you for my whole life
With every taste bud I've got.

Crayons

colors colors everywhere
do you know where the crayons are?
Crayons get put away

there should not be crayons in your hair
make sure to put them back when your done
colors colors everywhere

The crayon box is where they stay
they have every color
Crayons get put away

they might make you stare
They have all the colors
colors colors everywhere

they really like to play
you can make a picture with them
Crayons get put away

just put the crayons there
on the self is where there box is
colors colors everywhere
Crayons get put away

Click To Add A Title

I stared at my computer
It told me to add a title
There was a intruder
I was idle

Baseball Quatrain

My baseball Game
Was so fun
I hit an absolute flame
I am so fast when I run.

Braces Quatrain

I got a set of braces
The food gets stuck too much
In hard to reach places
Like all the nooks and crannies 'n such

Summer

Summer is beautiful
Oh how how much i love summer
Summer is my favorite
Summer come again

Shadow in the Night Villanelle

All in the dark there is no light
They're sleeping without fear
But there's a shadow in the night

Someone wakes up with a fright
She senses something's near
All in the dark there is no light

She yells like she's a knight
And stares in the closet, it is very queer
But there is a shadow in the night

They all wake up with a horrible sight
Someone in the darkness jumps out with a sneer
All in the dark there is no light

They see the man's face it's quite white
He lurks and lingers with an ear
But there is a shadow in the night

He tries to get the next who has the tallest height
As he succeeds the littlest one sheds a tear
All in the dark there is no light
But there is a shadow in the night

I Am Poem

I am sweet and cool
I wonder who i'm going to have as a husband
I hear birds chirping about my future
I see a golden future
I want my family to stay forever
I am sweet and cool

I pretend that i'm a Warrior
I feel a angels presents
I touch a cloud in the sky
I worry when death is coming
I cry about my grandma
I am sweet and cool

I understand That life happens for a reason
I say That unicorns are real
I dream that I'm going to have beautiful Children
I try to make a good impression
I hope that I'm going to have a good career
I am sweet and cool

Dogs Quatrain

So playful and proud
Zooming around having fun
Staring above at the cloud
Sleeping so softly once the day is done

I Am Poem

I am kind and brave
I wonder about the world around me
I hear a dolphin's squeak
I see above the clouds
I want to live my happiest life
I am kind and brave

I pretend I am a lost princess
I feel a fish's scales
I touch life
I worry about my classmates
I cry when I am hurt
I am kind and brave

I understand sadness
I say love is everything
I dream about my friends
I try to get it right
I hope for sun
I am kind and brave

Volleyball Cinquain

Volleyball
Hard, Fun
Jumping, Tossing , Striking
Hitting the ball hard
Competitions

Ode to Newt

Oh he's so cute
I love him so
His hair so nice
But he has to go

He became a brute
Black veins and oh
But he had to end it
His heart and brain had a brawl

I said I needed a minute
It was his low
My heart was hit
His brain was just too slow

Ode to Little Brother

Oh my little brother so happy and bright
He's so funny and sweet
And when he's here the light is bright

Oh my little bro his character is so perfectly right
And when he sees a bird he'll go "tweet tweet!"
He's so brave like a little knight

Oh my little brother so happy and bright
He's always trying to pick a fight
Lincoln is his name and no body is the same

Ode to Potatoes

So many things to do with you
It makes me want to scream
Mashed, Fries, Chips, Baked, and so many more!
We would be a great team

I love you oh so deep
I should propose to you
Or maybe you propose to me
I wish we never split apart
Potato, your a work of art

I love you to the core
You're delicious
Oh potato what should I do!

Blackout Poem

Look at the colors, the light
It's like a painting, with nature as its canvas!
Patterns against the blue sky, like a golden river. A festive project.
The panels flap and wave, and seem to glitter in the bright light.
Each change gives us a new view of the work.

Villanelle to Bass

Lots of bass
Swimming in the swamp
But bass dont go to class

Bass eat classes of haps
Of minnows and shads
Lots of bass

If you want to cash a bass
try to us a lure such as a spinner
But bass dont go to class

Bass are last
In the chart of the cleanest fish
Lots of bass

Try your cast
Will you make the lure shake and wigil to attract the bass
Bass dont go to class

Wen you real in a bass it will make it's rush of energy at last
Big cache 14.56 LB
Lots of bass
But bass dont go to class

Ode to Soccer

Oh sweet soccer
I love goalie
It is my favorite
And like striker

Oh sweet soccer
Kicking the ball
Making shots
And Blocking them

Oh sweet soccer
You are my favorite
You make me try
You make me shine

Oh sweet soccer
You are my true love
Black and white ball
That you get to use
On the field

Summer Quatrain

The sun was shining bright
The water was really nice
Some of the world would be bright
The water was as smooth as ice

Ode to my Parents

Dear Parents how I love you so
dearly I love you more than you even know

Both of you love me and Pratham
so dearly you both do so much for us
so much you sacrifice for us

I love it when we play board games
together especially Scrabble and Candy
I also love it when we spend together.

How dearly we love you both
How dearly you love us
We will always love you

An Ode to Robin

Robin is an extravagant cat
He requires his own sunbathing mat.
He'll only drink out of a fancy tea cup.
If i'm on the bed he'll always jump up.
He sticks by my side
like a personal guide.

If i'm ever feeling alone
I remember you're never alone
When you give a cat a home.

I love him so much
Another cat like him I can't even imagine such.
I can't picture a life without him.
it would just be too grim.

But a day must come when everything
must die.

And when it does i'm sure i'll cry.
Because I truly love Robin
And for as long as i'm alive,
he will never be forgotten.

My dogs are soft and sweet.
They help me when I'm sad
They help me when I'm mad
for my affection no one can compete



An Ode to Oden

(My Dog)

Oden,

Sense we were one
We had lots of fun,

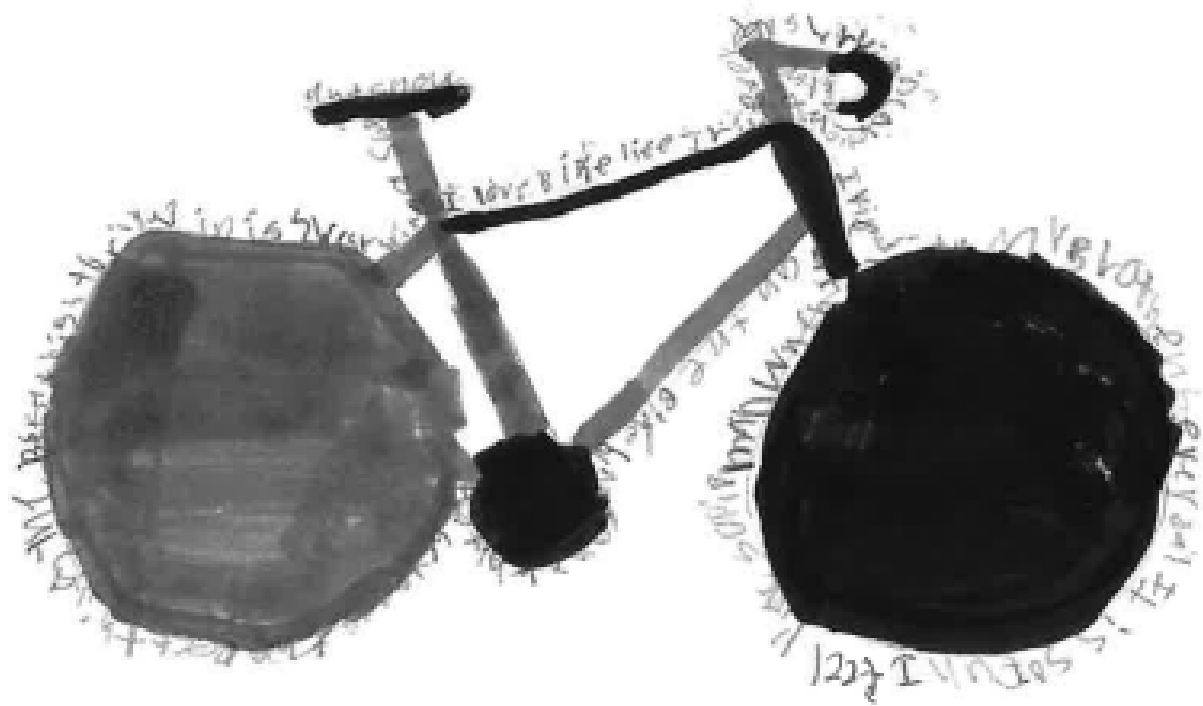
We went to the park
lots to play fetch and catch,

You have always been there
through the good times and
the bad,

Your soft golden fur
comforts within every
pet,

To my favorite dog,
I couldn't live without
you.

P.S. Don't tell Loki
my favorite dog. ~~you~~



Bee in a tree

I'm a bee in a tree hitting

honey
that's what
it's so sunny
for the little bee
there's a small web
that spins
Now relax
and be a bee

