

**SOUNDS  
LIKE A  
DRAGON**

**STUDENT POETRY ANTHOLOGY**



**2011**

**DANA GRAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
FORT BRAGG, CALIFORNIA**

Edited by Karen Lewis,  
Visiting Poet-Teacher

# SOUNDS LIKE A DRAGON

© 2011 Dana Gray Elementary School

All rights remain with the individual  
authors and artists.

COVER ART by Fourth Grade Students

Maria Ramos ~ Front

Cole Killion ~ Back

ART TEACHER Barbara Pedersen

Crayon Resist, Salt & Watercolor



Printing by 360 Press

Paper and Cover Stock is Forest Stewardship Certified

Typesetting & Layout by Karen Lewis

who assumes responsibility for any errors.

Funding for this Project Provided by:

DANA GRAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA

MENDOCINO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

CALIFORNIA POETS IN THE SCHOOLS: [www.cpits.org](http://www.cpits.org)

CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL, a state arts agency, which  
receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.



*Dear Readers,*

The title for this year's book comes from the poem "Dreaming of Peace" by Michael Watkins. In a year of war in the world, and the tsunami and earthquake in our sister city Otsuchi, Japan, the students have shown great courage to pick up their pencils and create new poems. The poetry here offers delight, healing, wisdom, and wonder. At Dana Gray, dolphins coexist peacefully with sea dragons. The students show a growing sense of stewardship for earth, ocean, each other, and all wild things.

Dana Gray student poems celebrate community. Whether the poet witnesses what's going on in the backyard, or what is happening in the unseen universe, language is a powerful tool to celebrate all dimensions of being alive. Intellectual curiosity and creative problem solving are key elements of the poetry classroom.

This project received amazing support from the staff & faculty at the school including: Nancy Doll, Hilda Meza, Gay Fales, Debbi Wasson, Dan Konigsberg, Sally Miller, Barbara Stone, Kathy Gibney, Lura Vieira, Lorrie Lagasse, Paris Greenlee, Jocelyn Sugrue, Marlena Nye, Laura Scott, Janice Sverko, Janice Moore, Linda Kjeldsen, Lee Ann Burkwall, Jo Beach, Monica Lima, Marilyn Matthews, Mary Brissette, Angie Daniels, John Gilmore, and Barbara Pederson. Welcome to new principal Lupe Gutierrez-Merritt.

May these poems allow you to pause for a moment and celebrate the visionary talents of our students and to imagine a bright future.

*Karen Lewis, Editor*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dreaming of Peace	Michael Watkins	7
In the Center of the World	Iliana Mendez	7
In the Heart of a Turtle	Emma Gilchrist	8
Secret	Carlee Gardner	8
I Am	Nick Reynolds	9
Into the Ghostly Vortex	Jake Bell	9
The Blue Animals and Drum...	Daniela Anaya	10
The Forest	Michael Cottrell	10
The Powers	Sky Rodseth	11
The Power of My Hands	Isaiah Freeman	11
My Hands Wish	Mayra Barrientos	11
In the Center of Venus	Amethyst Douglas	12
Inside the Heart of the Puppy...	Fernanda Varelas R.	13
A Magic Wolf	Jessenya Rivera	13
A Warrior Inside a Timber Wolf	Moises Flores	14
Dirt Ball	Logan Ponts	14
The Beautiful Stone	Ingrid Aban Perdomo	15
In the Center of the Violin	Skyla Silva	15
The Sound of the Guitar	Piersen Bumpus	16
What Makes You Ring	Sonja Haagen-Smit	16
The Shell Who Was Lonely	Lilianna Duran	17
The Red Stone	Lucas Taylor	17
The Pink Fish	Melissa Plascencia	18
My hands want to feel 9 Nile...	Nathan Alexander	18
The Skeleton Shell	Talia Orsi	18
In the Center of the Sun	Vienna Westcott	19
The Lightning	Alex Escobedo	19
Eye of a Tiger	Clay Anderson	20
Dreams Fly Away	Caitlin Pitts	20
I Love Hamsters	Abigale Griffin	21
The Heart	Kenly Reyes	21
My Icy Seal	Hannah Nazarin	22
The Magic Feather	Ava Sutton	23
I am Your Wish	Georgina Fox	23
The Encyclopedia of Purple...	Wyatt Curti	24
The Beautiful Twilight	Braedyn Lowe	24
Jewelry on the Shore	Evelyn Villaseñor	24
The Stone Heart	Riley Williams	25
The Sun, Stars, and the Moon...	Rosealee Miller	26
My Dream Moon	Natallea Bazor	27
Jupiter's Secrets	Bryan Browning	27
Floating in Space	Ian Knight	28
The Mask of Earth	Kylee Smith	28
Wonderful Life of a Shell	Maddie Martins	29
The Burst of Light that Changes...	James Nelson	28
In My Backyard	Gerardo Chan Can	29
About a Raccoon	Brandon Smith	29

My Dad	Carlos Garcia	30
Power of...	Nancy Gonzalez Ramierz	30
The Family of the Indian	Jeremy Segura	31
The Mask	Javier Mora	31
Ode to a Dog	Abby Fowler	31
The Blue Milky Way	Rigoberto Jara	32
My Mask	Randy Hernandez Solis	32
Ode to Writer's Block	Anna Magnone	32
Ode to Poetry	Cody Filosi	33
Can Our Wonders Come True?	Wendy Wilson	33
Ode to My Comb	Samuel Williams	34
The Mask of Appearances	Wesley Gustafson	34
The Mask of the Chupakabra	Maria Ramirez	35
Ode to My Chair	Marcos Hernandez	36
My Noisy Street	William Robertson	36
The Way Things Move	Nathan Vichi	37
Where I Live	Isaac Arnold	37
Starting With the Moon	Maddy VanPelt	38
The True Moon	Hailey Johnson	38
In My World...	Katlyn Cole	39
Ode to Coconuts	Anyawu Wesley	39
How do Fairies...	Sunny Anderson	40
The Soccer Field	Judah Millen	40
My World	Emily Hansen	41
Little Peacock	Fionna Regalia	41
My Street on Jupiter	Claire Kisliuk	42
Cover	Jackie Cienega Garcia	42
Rainbow Ladybug	Mireya Mello-Garcia	43
Inside My Book	Haley Hutchinson	44
There and Back Again...	Thomas Jacobs	45
In My Perfect World	Sam Benally	45
If I Were in Charge	Natalie Mix	46
No More	Zulaimy Garcia-Diaz	46
I am Sorry, Friend	Jasmin Olvera	47
Every Day Living	Reina Chavez	47
There May Be a Problem	Alyssa Angley	48
The Damage, Now There is Light	Angel Garcia Gaytan	49
Pups for the Lonely	May Vandeventer	49
It Will Never be a Poem	Nathan Fontanilla	50
Forever Waiting	Kaylee Hicks	51
Farther than a Poem	Bryan Buenroostro-Corona	51
Silver	Dow Fox	52
Show Me	Brianna Martinez	53
A Kitten's Broken Heart	Destini Gibney	54
Otsuchi, There Will Be	Kate Becerra	54
Let There Be	Kyle Thompson	55
My poem has a lot of love	Isaac Vargas	55
Let there be...	Kayla Cottrell	56

Courage and fear	Tora Haagen-Smit	57
I Learn by Myself	Angelica Meza	57
Search For a Friend	Jessica Lien	58
There is a time for a dark day	James Alexander	59
Alphabet Poem	Blaine Taylor	60
The Light in the Sky	Enrique Ruano	61
A poem hides under your feet	Daniel Toscano	61
Show Me Mountains	Oscar Hernandez	62
My Poem	Jenna Murphy	62
Blossoms in the Night	Natalie R. Baumgartner	63
The Baby Who Cried about...	Ricardo Padilla	63
Something	Kevin Portillo	64
The Feeling of Me	Maggie Vichi	64
Believer	Aiden Miller	65
The Lonely Heart	Ryan Mehling	65
A Bracelet	Katelynn Trujillo	66
Think of Me	Elizar Villalpando	67
The Evolution	Jose Garcia Gaytan	68
Up and Off	Skyler Saunders	68
Into the Dark	Christian Lopez Maldonado	69
The Lonely Poem	Cris Casarez Santana	69
Poem Melody	Cassidy Pitts	70
A Recipe for Bravery	Cloe Tarlton	71
Nonsensical	Josephina Sugrue	71
I Was in a Dream	Andrea Gaona	72
Tornado of Me	Justin May	72
My Poem is Not Cool	Lorena Cauich	73
Who am I?	Maryann Estrella	73
A Recipe for Sadness	Josue Manzano	74
Feelings	Dillynn Perry	75
Tomahawk	Lucia Jones	75
Healing	Ruby Setnik	76
My Journey	Jazmin Hernandez	77
A Gift for You	Colton Hopper	78
Anger	Rosendo May	78
The Waterfall	Savannah Hood	79
Wonder & Surprise: What...	Mersaydez Smith	79
Tsunami	Maya deLoche	80
Fearless	Alex Gibney	80
When I Have Fear	Serena Bowman	81
I Will Give You...	Amiah Lopez	82
I am a Dragon	Adreanna Lancaster	83
A Purpose for Everything	Celeste Munoz	83
I will give you wind chimes	Devon Clemons	84
My Poem is on Fire	Derek Porter	84

(untitled poems are listed by their first line)

## **Dreaming of Peace**

I am an octopus in April, gold as a  
canyon, lost like a video game, making sounds  
like an elephant, making sounds like a dragon,  
breathing fire,  
spinning a top on its hand.  
Like a gold frog struggling of thirst  
at midnight, dreaming of peace to come to him.

*by Michael Watkins*

## **In the Center of the World**

In the center of the world  
there is the sun shining hot to our world,

In the center of the world  
there is rain dropping down my head, hands and  
feet,

In the center of our world  
there is the spirit all around us,

In the center of our world  
there are people dancing, singing, and  
helping others, how they want to be treated.

*by Iliana Mendez*

## **In the Heart of a Turtle**

In the heart of a turtle  
it is snowing,  
In the heart of a turtle  
a drum is beating,  
In the heart of a turtle  
there is an ocean of  
seaweed,  
In the heart of a turtle  
there is its family and  
friends!

*by Emma Gilchrist*

## **Secret**

I am the aqua blue ocean  
I am the blue sea dolphin  
that lives out of water.  
I am the stars that glow in the night.  
I am the dog that has a secret.  
I am the guitar that plays like a piano.  
I am the basketball game that nobody knows.  
I am a kiwi with something hidden.  
I am a bird that blends in with every color.  
I am a red hibiscus flower  
that is tinier than an ant.

*by Carlee Gardner*

## **I Am**

I am a spider with a shell on back.  
I am a blue cloud up in the sky.  
I am a bat eating an apple.  
I am a dolphin jumping over the moon.  
I am a guitar being played by a snake.  
But my life loves poems!

*by Nick Reynolds*

## **Into the Ghostly Vortex**

In the ghostly vortex  
is a land of nightmares and despair.

In the ghostly vortex  
is a code close to breaking.

In the ghostly vortex  
massacres too horrible to speak of.

In the ghostly vortex  
is a treasure long lost in darkness.

In the ghostly vortex  
someone is waiting. . .for you.

*by Jake Bell*

## **The Blue Animals and Drum Set**

I am a blue bird flying in the blue sky.  
I am a blue dog playing a drum set.  
I am a peach, high in a blue tree.  
I am a blue bird playing a drum set.  
I am a blue seal swimming  
free in the blue salty water  
in the ocean.  
I love the earth.

*by Daniela Anaya*

## **The Forest**

In the center of the forest  
there is a wolf speaking.

In the center of the forest  
Indians dance.

In the center of the forest  
plants move.

In the center of the forest  
animals are safe.

*by Michael Cottrell*

## **The Powers**

I look like a heart  
I have powers inside  
like power of friendship  
and most of all  
I have the power of heart-making.  
I am only a stone  
with powers of love.

*by Sky Rodseth*

## **The Power of My Hands**

My hands are the powers of dirt bikes.  
My hands are the power of my life.  
My hands heal other humans.  
My hands are made for fixing things.  
My hands are made for healing all the wildlife.  
My hands are made for making pride.  
My hands create friends.  
My hands help people like me.

*by Isaiah Freeman*

## **My Hands Wish**

My hands wish that they could pet a deer.  
My hands wish they could play a flute.  
My hands wish they could pick up a boa.  
My hands wish they can have feelings like me.  
My hands are another face to me.  
My hands are like waves flowing through the ocean.  
My hands love me.

*by Mayra Barrientos*

## **In the Center of Venus**

In the center of Venus  
Salmon swim free,

In the center of Venus  
A ukulele plays like a butterfly,

In the center of Venus  
A dog barks like crazy,

In the center of Venus  
Red blood flows  
like a spirit is free,

In the center of Venus  
A flute plays peacefully,

In the center of Venus  
Someone dances gracefully,

In the center of Venus  
Someone hums quietly  
to a song.

*by Amethyst Douglas*

## **Inside the Heart of the Puppy's Spirit**

In the heart of a puppy's spirit  
there is happy happiness,

In the heart of a puppy's spirit  
there is a happy spirit,

In the heart of a puppy's spirit  
there are dolphins singing,

In the heart of a puppy's spirit  
there is hot breeze inside,

In the heart of a puppy's spirit  
there is a sad piano song,

In the heart of a puppy's spirit  
there are some kittens being chased.

*by Fernanda Varelas Ramirez*

## **A Magic Wolf**

I am a wolf in a bright forest  
The blueberries are falling from the sky  
    but I don't know why  
I am the bird playing softball  
I hear a piano playing by the seal  
I taste the rain  
I see 8 blue birds flying on the clouds  
I stand in good relation with peace  
I stand in good relation to nature

*by Jessenya Rivera*

## **A Warrior Inside a Timber Wolf**

Inside the timber wolf, he hunts  
Inside the timber wolf, his spirit lies

Inside the timber wolf, he has  
a heart that beats like a warrior

Inside the timber wolf, there's  
something that tells him to hunt,

Inside the timber wolf,  
a stampede is in him

Inside the timber wolf, a river  
of timber wolves lies inside him

Inside the timber wolf. . .

*by Moises Flores*

## **Dirt Ball**

I am the boy that plays football.  
I am the boy that rides his dirt bike deep in the  
valley.  
I am the mud on the tire of the dirt bike.  
I am the boy that runs the ball.  
I am the quarterback that receives the ball.  
I am the person that throws the ball to the  
linebacker.  
I am the linebacker that runs a  
touchdown.

*by Logan Ponts*

## **The Beautiful Stone**

My stone reminds me of a beating heart.  
It looks like a skeleton nose.  
Inside it, a stream of blood waiting to burst.  
It used to be a powerful stone  
that fell from the sky.

*by Ingrid Aban Perdomo*

## **In the Center of the Violin**

The sound of the  
violin sounds like  
the river flowing,

In the center of  
the violin the sound  
speaks for you,

In the center of  
the violin the  
sound brings  
you to sleep,

In the center of  
the violin the  
music brings  
you to tears.

*by Skyla Silva*

## **The Sound of the Guitar**

The sound of the guitar  
it's so loud

The sound of the guitar  
can be smoothing

The sound of the guitar  
the strings vibrate,

The sound of the guitar  
calms the ocean.

*by Pierson Bumpus*

## **What Makes You Ring**

I am a snake with a karate jacket.  
I am a bird with grass in its mouth.  
I am a water snake with a flute.  
I am a daisy with 9 petals.  
I am your imagination.  
I am the thing with all the fun ideas.  
I am red and orange.  
I am purple and blue with flowers.  
I am like a bird in the sky.  
I am what makes you ring.

*by Sonja Haagen-Smit*

## The Shell Who was Lonely

I am a big, tall shell that has orange spots,  
that was left on the beach all lonely  
and I'm old and no one would want to pick me up  
from the ground  
and I'm a little bit broken.  
The water was cold  
and the sand was wet.  
Then one night,  
somebody finally picked me up from the ground.  
The person who picked me up from the ground  
thought I was beautiful,  
for her collection.

*by Lilianna Duran*

## The Red Stone

My rock is a red night scratched by the god Zeus.  
It is a red hill with a lake of red water.  
It is a mountain of red with a gray top.  
It is a ruby of red and white waiting to be  
discovered.  
It is a stone with powers untold.  
The mark to the side makes it look like a crack in  
the earth.  
The power you have already heard of  
is now to be created  
to be the ability to change  
into anything in the world.

*by Lucas Taylor*

## The Pink Fish

I am a fish on the twirly bars.  
I like to do art.  
I twirl like a hamster.  
I can see the clouds in the sky.  
I eat coffee ice cream.  
I like to play the piano.  
I am 5 fish playing the piano.  
It is rainy all the time but I like rain.  
I can see clouds,  
they are very blue and very puffy.  
I like pink.  
I am a brave, brave fish!

*by Melissa Plascencia*



My hands want to feel 9 Nile perch.  
My hands want to feel a giant catfish.  
My hands want to feel the icy cold  
of the Sea Shepherd's bow.  
My hands want to feel the sweet, sweet  
victory of when we stop illegal whaling.

*by Nathan Alexander*

## The Skeleton Shell

It looks like a skeleton.  
It looks like a skeleton's hand.  
It grabs you in the wind.  
The inside is purple, the inside is pink  
Your imagination is any color you want.

*by Talia Orsi*

## **In the Center of the Sun**

In the center of the sun  
A pillar of fire gleams out,

In the center of the sun  
A magnificent horse appears,

In the center of the sun  
A cool breeze blows by,

In the center of the sun  
A river flows gently,

In the center of the sun  
A bird drifts slowly.

*by Vienna Westcott*

## **The Lightning**

When lightning flashes  
the bulldogs bark.

When lightning flashes  
bulldogs start to play electric guitar.

When lightning flashes  
bulldogs start to stamp.

When lightning flashes  
bulldogs wag their tails.

*by Alex Escobedo*

## **Eye of a Tiger**

I am the bow of  
a pirate ship.

I've sailed the 7  
seas with  
trust and luck.

I'm the fin of  
a shark.

I am a microscope  
looking in outer space.

I'm a finger  
pointing up.

I am the tail of  
a stingray.

I am the eye of  
a tiger.

*by Clay Anderson*

## **Dreams Fly Away**

In the center of the sun  
my heart speaks.

In the center of the sun  
I can fly.

In the center of the sun  
I live in a valley in the sky.

In the center of the sun  
I am a mermaid flying in the sky.

*by Caitlin Pitts*

## **I Love Hamsters**

I love to touch  
hamsters. The fur  
on their body  
moves across  
my hands  
like my  
stuffed  
animal.

The fur on their  
body makes me  
want to keep  
one for  
myself.

A hamster's fur  
gives me joy,  
lots of joy  
in my hands!

I love to touch  
hamsters

very, very much! *by Abigale Griffin*

## **The Heart**

I am the heart who is  
made  
out of stone. I'm the most  
powerful stone.

I am hard as a rock, and stronger  
than an ant.

I make the thunder, the rain  
that falls from the sky.

*by Kenly Reyes*

## **My Icy Seal**

If only I was  
a seal as  
blue as  
the sky.  
I am the  
lightest  
rain falling  
from up  
above.  
I wish I  
could be  
the brightest  
star in  
the universe.  
I am the warm  
sunset.  
I am the lightest  
feather.  
My name is like  
a lavender  
flower.  
My lips are as  
red  
as the ripest  
watermelon.  
My skin is soft as snow!

*by Hannah Nazarin*

## **The Magic Feather**

This feather is magical  
This feather is unique  
This feather is polka-dotted  
    and it is beautiful  
and when you look in it,  
    you see the future  
The bird it came from  
    was unbelievable and magic  
So if you ever see it  
    and you get its feather  
        then you will see the future too.

*by Ava Sutton*

## **I am Your Wish**

I am a red tailed hawk  
swooping down to gather rainbow fish.  
I am playing in sapphire clouds.  
I am purple blue windy snowy sapphire clouds.  
I am a hawk of 8 flaming colors.  
I am a fish that tastes like a good chocolate taste.  
I am a strike of rain that hits a guitar.  
I am a rainbow of only 5 colors.  
I am your dream that comes true.  
I am your only wish.

*by Georgiana Fox*

## **The Encyclopedia of Purple Moonlight**

It reminds me of a purple dinosaur's tooth.  
It came from a treasure chest in a dark crystal cave.  
It is as pretty as a purple and white flower.  
It came out of a river in a cave.  
It is like a mountain of purple.  
It shines like the moon in the night.

*by Wyatt Curti*

## **The Beautiful Twilight**

I am a tree in the dark  
I am the sky to the twilight  
I am a mother bear caring  
    for my loved one  
I am the ocean splashing  
    against the rocks  
I am ice of five colors  
I am lightning of sky.

*by Braedyn Lowe*

## **Jewelry on the Shore**

Orange water, red rain, fish  
swim, sharks eat rocks on the  
ground. People see white spots,  
shells, diamonds, feathers on the  
shore. The fish drink, sharks  
drink, whale bones get old.  
People get diamonds, take them  
home. Jewelry on the shore.

*by Evelyn Villaseñor*

## **The Stone Heart**

My stone is  
a heart inside of me.  
I think of my stone  
when it's a mountain side.  
I think of my stone, my heart.  
My stone can talk when you believe in it.  
I can talk to you.  
I think of my heart  
when it is a mountain side.  
It came off a mountain side,  
it was a stone in a  
waterfall.

*by Riley Williams*

## **The Sun, Stars and the Moon Sets and Rises**

The sun rises  
and the horse runs,  
  
The sun sets  
and the dog barks,  
  
The stars rise  
and the cats want in,  
  
The moon rises  
and every light is off.

*by Rosealee Miller*

## **My Dream Moon**

My May moon shines in the  
night sky.

My May moon makes the turtle  
come out to play.

My May moon makes the angels  
come out to sing.

My May moon makes the wolf  
come out and howl.

My May moon,  
My May moon.

*by Nattalea Bazor*

## **Jupiter's Secrets**

Jupiter has many secrets,  
Too many for me to count,  
While it waits in the ink black sky  
Dreaming as the sun comes out.  
It is so colorful,  
like a butterfly,  
Dreaming as it usually does,  
While it waits in the ink black sky.

*by Bryan Browning*

## **Floating in Space**

floating in space. . .  
    floating in air. . .  
all you have to do is breathe. . .  
look down at the blue earth  
    it looks so small  
                                small  
  small. . .  
and when you touch Earth  
    you will feel happy again.

*by Ian Knight*

## **The Mask of Earth**

The mask has the power of a hawk's eye.  
    The mask has the power of good luck  
        clover.  
The mask has the power of swimming fish.  
    The mask has the power of rain falling.  
    The mask has the power of lightning.  
        It has the power of  
            everything.

*by Kylee Smith*

## Wonderful Life of a Shell

I live at a beach. I move from beach to beach.  
I used to have a creature in me,  
but now I'm very empty inside.  
I'm on the shores of the beach, nothing to do.  
The waves kept washing up on me.  
I tried to move, but I couldn't.  
One day, the ocean was so strong,  
it took me away into the sea!  
Now, I don't live on the beach anymore.  
It's much easier living in the ocean.  
I don't feel empty anymore.

*by Maddie Martins*

## The Burst of Light that Changes Your Life

A burst of light, far away, near the heaven  
They will see, all that believe will see it now,  
like the sun it is not. For they who see, will see the  
sparkle.  
In this light, you will shine too,  
for people who see this wonderful light  
will be whoever they want,  
but there's more than just this light,  
it brings peace, not battle and war,  
so, no more dying in this world.

*by James Nelson*

## **In My Backyard**

The sounds of birds  
make me happy  
In my backyard where I live  
there's a big flower.  
Every day I water it  
I hear it talk to me  
I smell perfume  
I follow it  
It takes me to a secret place  
where there's a lot of flowers  
made of rainbows.

*by Gerardo Chan Can*

## **About a Raccoon**

This morning I saw  
two raccoons in my back yard.  
They were so cute,  
they looked like puppies.  
My dog scared them  
up a tall tree.  
They were staring at me.  
Then I went to school.  
They're probably still up there.

*by Brandon Smith*

## **My Dad**

When I see the blue sky  
it reminds me of my dad  
'Cause it looks like it calms me down  
when I am mad,  
sad,  
or anything.

*by Carlos Garcia*

## **Power of. . .**

Power of people. Power of  
the wind. Power of the eyes.  
Power of the star. Power of the spirit.  
Power of the sun. Power of the mouth.  
Power of the words. Power of the letters.  
Power of the sky. Power of the moon.  
Power of the people.

*by Nancy Gonzalez Ramirez*

## **The Family of the Indian**

My eyes are red and my pupils are black.  
My eyebrows are angry.  
My mouth is scarred,  
blood everywhere I go.  
I've got diamonds  
to protect me and the Mexican Indians.  
I have power to control the earth.  
My spirit is ghostly.  
Good night, spirits.

*by Jeremy Segura*

## **The Mask**

I am a mask.  
My eyes are like  
clouds dripping rain.  
My nose is like a volcano erupting.  
My mouth is like  
two fish swimming.  
My beard is like a turtle swimming.  
My hair is like a bird flying.

*by Javier Mora*

## **Ode to a Dog**

Dog, you are always waiting for me at the door.  
Dog, you always give me kisses like wet hands  
touching your face.  
You always sit on my feet to keep them warm.  
Dog, when I'm at school, I miss you,  
and I know you miss me.  
I know you want to flop on my lap  
and give me kisses,  
but it will have to wait 'til school is over.  
Dog, I know you bark when I get home,  
because you are happy.

*by Abby Fowler*

## **The Blue Milky Way**

The Milky Way  
looks like a hole in the ocean  
It looks like a giant sword lying on the ocean  
with its last stroke of breath  
It looks like a giant tornado  
heading towards Earth  
Se mira como un gigante,  
haciendo una sopa del sol.  
That is why I like the Milky Way.

*by Rigoberto Jara*

## **My Mask**

My nose is like the sun.  
My eyes look like spikes.  
My nose looks like a house.  
My mouth is split,  
one side will talk Spanish, the other would talk  
English.  
If you put on my mask, it would never come off.  
I will tell you never to buy this mask.  
If you do, bad luck for you.  
My mask is very cool.  
*by Randy Hernandez Solis*

## **Ode to Writer's Block**

You leave me here to cry  
and wonder  
What do I have to say?  
Why can't I write?  
Why is my mind blank?  
Why, oh why do I have writer's block?  
*by Anna Magnone*

## Ode to Poetry

You are some times funny  
    You are scary  
    You are sad  
    You are angry  
You are poetry, all ways  
    You rhyme mostly  
You have a title always  
    You are fun always  
    You are  
    P  
    O  
    E  
    T  
    R  
    Y  
and you are wonderful.

*by Cody Filosi*

## Can Our Wonders Come True?

What if we were animals?  
What would happen if we could read minds?  
    What if our minds never worked?  
    Why do the clouds look like cotton candy?  
    What if our wonders came true?  
Can you just go in your wonder box and think, think,  
    think all about these questions and  
    answer them for me?

*by Wendy Wilson*

## Ode to My Comb

Oh, thank you for keeping my hair good looking,  
long, and puffy.

Oh, thank you for taking out the tangles  
and knots  
and making it straight.  
I love you comb.

Oh, thank you for flying across my hair  
so I don't work to comb my hair.

I love you, comb!

*by Samuel Williams*

## The Mask of Appearances

I am the mask of appearances,  
My eyes cry the rain that falls on Earth,  
My nose shows the huts that people make,  
My eyebrows show the lighting in storms,  
My mouth is the reason for fish,  
My forehead shows the eagles that fly in the day,  
My ears show the feat of many animals,  
My cheeks show the fire and strikes of meteors on  
the earth,  
I am the mask of appearances.

*by Wesley Gustafson*

## **The Mask of the Chupakabra**

I am the mask of the Chupakabra.  
My eyes are of fire  
My ears are the spikiest you have ever seen  
My mouth screams all day and night  
My nose can find where you are  
So you can run, but you can't hide  
I have no body  
I am just a head  
You never know where I am  
I could be close, I could be far  
I could be true, I could be fake  
My star-shaped eyes are on fire,  
Visit me, I am the Chupakabra.

*by Maria Ramirez*

## **Ode to My Chair**

Dear Chair,  
If I didn't have you to sit on,  
I would be sitting on the floor.  
I like tipping in you even though it's dangerous.  
You are so green and silver,  
which are two of my favorite colors.  
You have so many marks  
of different kinds and colors.  
I want you to tell me  
all the people who have sat on you.  
You have a handle in you,  
which I can grab you with.  
I wish you could travel, because  
I would like you to take me to Mexico.

*by Marcos Hernandez*

## Look for Me

Look for me  
at a swirling pool  
of orange diamonds.  
There are rabbits swimming  
all around me.  
Look for me playing with the fish.  
Look for me in my dream boat.  
Look for me at my lake,  
Look for me anywhere there is water.

*by Sam West*

## My Noisy Street

If you want  
to live on my street you have to  
deal with  
the sound of the prowling cat.  
If you want to  
live on my street  
you have to love the sound  
of frogs gathering on the sides  
of the street.  
If you want to live on  
my street  
you have to deal with my  
noisy neighbor.  
If you want  
to live on my street,  
come on in.

*by William Robertson*

## **The Way Things Move**

I like the way snakes use the grass  
to hide themselves  
when they are hunting,  
I like the way the snakes slither  
into my house.

The way the lizards crawl,  
it makes me laugh.

The way the turtle crawls,  
it makes me think that the time has slowed down.

*by Nathan Vichi*

## **Where I Live**

Where I live the road ends and the friendship  
begins.  
If you want to live with me,  
you will have to live adventurous and free.  
Where I live you will play poker with a T-Rex.  
Where I live you play hide and go seek with Big  
Foot.  
On my street, you play checkers with an inchworm.  
Where I live you play guess-who with a squirrel  
monkey.

*by Isaac Arnold*

## Starting With the Moon

This is the moon of flowers in the meadow  
In the meadow of flowers, you will see a unicorn.  
    On the purple unicorn,  
    you will see some polka-dots and hearts.  
    In the unicorn you will find happiness.  
In happiness you find a leopard running on the grass.  
In the leopard you will find the bird he ate for lunch.  
    In the bird you will find the nest  
    where she once layed.  
    In the nest, you will find the eggs  
    that are about to hatch.

*by Maddy VanPelt*

## The True Moon

The moon is like a big  
flash light in the sky.  
    You are as light  
    as flames. You  
    are my wish  
    come true. You  
    are the shadow  
    of love. You  
    are every thing.  
    You are the  
    true moon.

*by Hailey Johnson*

## **In My World. . .**

In my world, desks are made of chocolate  
in my world, pencils are made of candy canes  
in my world, animals have wings to fly  
in my world, squirrel monkeys are everywhere  
in my world, trees are cotton candy  
in my world guinea pigs wear sunglasses  
in my world, people have passion  
in my world, pandas do yoga  
in my world, cupcakes are everywhere  
in my world, people help each other  
in my world, in my world  
in my world.

*by Katlyn Cole*

## **Ode to Coconuts**

Sweet  
tender  
your milk is white  
clear and sweet.  
Your meat dissolves  
in my mouth.  
I love all the things  
we can make  
from your tender meat,  
pie, Almond Joy,  
coconut M & Ms,  
cloth  
and pudding.

*by Anyawu Wesley*

## How do Fairies. . .

Why do fairies hide from us?  
When do they come out to play?  
What do they eat?  
Who do they think we are?  
Do they comb mermaids' hair?  
Do they help unicorns fly?  
Are they related to elves or trolls?  
Will we hear you talk to each other?  
Will we ever know?

*by Sunny Andersen*

## The Soccer Field

Look for me in my world  
My special place of happiness  
Where nothing matters but me and the ball  
When the score is zero-zero, and  
the other team is tough, it doesn't matter  
if they're from Hong Kong or Vietnam  
and you take a couple spills, even in the  
tangle of the battle raging and the sound  
of cheers and yells. You make a  
mistake, it's okay 'cause when you get  
a breakaway, everything whirs to silence,  
and the world is suddenly still  
and fireworks are going off inside  
your stomach and you score a goal.  
Glory surges through you,  
or you miss, and great disappointment  
comes. No matter what, the soccer  
field is the best place to  
BE !

*by Judah Millen, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade*

## **My World**

In my world  
purple birds sing.

In my world  
frogs croak and leap around.

In my world  
green butterflies fly.

In my world  
apple trees can talk.

My world is  
made of love and hate.  
I love my world.

*by Emily Hansen*

## **Little Peacock**

Oh, peacock,  
you are so beautiful  
just like every star in the night sky,  
like the wild bird you are,  
just like a lion's roar, your call can be heard.  
When I see you fly it's a blur of blue and green  
you are shy and gentle.  
Oh, little peacock, you are the key  
to my treasure chest of dreams,  
a blue and green diamond,  
that's what you are.  
When I'm sad, mad, or bored,  
I can only think about you.

*by Fionna Regalia*

## **My Street on Jupiter**

On my street  
people hear the foghorn  
murmuring in the dark.

On my street  
people hear birds tweeting happily  
in the sunlight.

In my secret passage  
under the world, I have the  
power to change where I live.

Under my street  
I feel cars rolling  
over me, the pain is so thick,  
but I am happy.

My street on Jupiter  
is all a dream.

*by Claire Kisluk*

## **Cover**

Cover the land, cover it with  
Love, cover it with peace and  
Prayer, cover the world with  
Joy and happiness.

*by Jackie Cienega Garcia*

## Rainbow Ladybug

The rainbow  
ladybug travels  
through the

land  
when it  
goes past  
the sea

it shines its blue  
at the sea

The rainbow ladybug  
flies to the green  
forest and shines  
its sparkling  
green at the  
forest trees.

The rainbow  
ladybug goes  
to the sun  
and shines  
it bright yellow.

I finally  
reach the  
rainbow,  
I shine  
all my colors  
red, orange, yellow,  
green, blue, and  
purple.

*by Mireya Mello-Garcia*

## Inside My Book

It's like a magical  
world when I go inside  
my book. I feel like  
I am actually standing  
there inside of it,  
but not in action,  
only watching, just watching,  
waiting for something  
to happen. When I am  
inside my book it  
takes all my worries  
and things that I've been  
thinking about away, just  
into thin air. I visualize  
that I am one of the  
characters running to safety,  
or pouncing on a mouse  
just when I thought I  
would. I believe that I  
am actually one of the  
warriors like Squirrelpaw  
or Leafpaw. Reading  
makes me happy. When  
ever I read one word  
I'm just inside of the  
book drifting to where  
ever they are. I am  
the creator of my  
book.

*by Haley Hutchinson*

## **There and Back Again: A Boy's Tale**

Look for me in an old western town!  
Accompanying the sheriff on a dangerous mission!  
I'll be tying up bad guys and riding a stallion!

Find me in a galactic battle cruiser:  
protecting the galaxy from evil invaders  
from the dark depths of space!  
I'll be going light speed.

I found myself safe in my bed,  
under my covers,  
snoring and sleeping like a sloth.

*by Thomas Jacobs*

## **In My Perfect World**

In my perfect world it rains  
kittens and puppies  
In my perfect world it is  
always time to play.  
In my perfect world it is  
never time for war, only time for peace.  
In my perfect world,  
it is always sunny, never rainy.

*by Sam Benally*

## **If I Were in Charge**

If I were in charge,  
war would be a joke.

If I were in charge,  
Peace would be my secretary.

If I were in charge,  
Love would rule the lands.

If I were in charge  
Freedom would represent us.

If I were in charge  
The world would be as beautiful  
as a daffodil. *by Natalie Mix*

## **No More**

No more hurt feelings.  
No more killing.  
No more bad words.  
No more back talk.  
No more rudeness.  
No more broken hearts.  
No more cheating.  
No more stealing.  
No more damages.  
No more badness.  
No more violence.  
No more bad acts.  
No more yelling.  
No more teasing.  
Just peace.

*by Zulaimy Garcia-Diaz*

## **I am Sorry, Friend**

I am sorry, friend  
for hurting your  
feelings. I saw you  
crying so much it  
made a hurricane. I am  
sad and sorry like a  
flower without water  
and dying.

*by Jasmin Olvera*

## **Every Day Living**

*for Otsuchi people after the tsunami*

Let there be a bottle of water so you may  
drink out of it.  
Let there be a plate of food so you may eat.  
Let there be a pretty flower in every garden  
so you may pick it.  
Let there be a bed so you may sleep.  
Let there be a shower so you may bathe.  
Let there be a whole new world.

*by Reina Chavez*

## There May Be a Problem

*for the people of Otsuchi (excerpt)*

Something appeared, disaster struck,  
and was gone.

The wind started to blow, lightning  
flashed, and thunder boomed, which  
triggered the babies to cry.

The earth shook, and gained strength  
to make you flee as if you were a mouse.  
5 minutes flew by, and it was gone.

Morning came, and a flood of water  
mounted over your head.

It took everything away, even  
family, by drowning and heart attacks.  
Then the water was gone.

Later that day, when you began to recover,  
another earthquake came. And was gone.

First happy with family, then disaster struck  
with revenge, and then was left. Suddenly alone.  
Lonely. . .

But then, think, try to be happy,  
hold tulips and fuchsias in your arms. . .  
I shall send you kittens, rings, and bracelets.

Grow love and strength, make life shine  
like a heart of crystal, ruby or gems.  
Or as of the sun.

Be happy, grow love,  
have faith. . . *from Alyssa Angley*



## **It Will Never be a Poem**

Not one day it will be a poem  
nor week nor month

Never it will be a poem, not even just  
for a second.

Nor it shall think, smell, feel,  
look or taste like one.

It will never be one,  
not here, not there, not  
anywhere.

It shall not be a nice  
poem, or a mean poem.

Even if it thinks it is  
a poem for a half of a second,

I will instantly rip it into shreds,  
even though I love this poem.

*by Nathan Fontanilla*

## Forever Waiting

My poem is a fairy taking flight on  
an angel's wing.

My poem is deep in my heart  
waiting for someone to find it.

My poem sits in my heart waiting  
for the angel and her wings  
to come back.

My poem is always  
forever  
waiting.

*by Kaylee Hicks*

## Farther than a Poem

My poem is not a tree  
My poem is the wood.

My poem is not a bird  
My poem is the feather of a bird.

My poem is not a dragon  
My poem is the fire of the dragon.

My poem is not a teacher  
My poem is the brain that teaches us.

My poem is not a student.  
My poem is the brain of the student  
that is eager to learn.

*by Bryan Buenrostro-Corona*

## Silver

I  
  am  
    a  
      hawk.

I  
  am  
    a  
      war  
       hawk.

I  
  am  
    a  
      war  
       hawk  
       with  
       golden  
       tipped  
       wings.

I  
  have  
    a  
      beak  
       like  
       a  
       razor  
       blade.

I  
  changed  
    to  
      a  
       barracuda.

I  
  am  
    a  
      barracuda  
       of  
       strength.

I  
am  
a  
barracuda  
of  
strength.  
coated  
in  
silver.

I  
am  
a  
barracuda  
of  
strength.  
coated  
in  
silver  
searching  
for  
the  
future.

*by Dow Fox*

## **Show Me**

Show me how to love Earth  
Show me how to learn about animals  
Show me how to love nature  
Show me the tall mountains  
Show me the beautiful blue ocean  
Show me the beautiful sky  
Show me the sparkling stars  
Show me how to live

*by Brianna Martinez*

## **A Kitten's Broken Heart**

My poem plays joyfully with  
me next to the great beyond,

My poem sits next to me  
under a white oak tree,

My poem is a kitten as its  
tail sits still, its heart is broken

My poem and its broken heart  
leaves, and sits and cries,  
next to the great beyond

and I tell my poem to be fearless.

*by Destini Gibney*

## **Otsuchi, There Will Be**

*dedicated to Otsuchi*

Otsuchi, there will be help  
Otsuchi, there will be sunlight  
Otsuchi, you will hear the chimes ring again  
Otsuchi, you will see the butterflies fly again  
Otsuchi, the birds will sing again  
Otsuchi, there is hope  
You will rise again!

*by Kate Becerra*

## Let There Be

Let there be light that shines on a  
grassy meadow.

Let there be hail and thunder when  
Earth needs it.

Let there be presents at a  
young one's birthday.

Let there be peace instead of war,  
sharing instead of fighting.

Let there be love, not fighting or  
violence or war.

Let there be sharing and caring  
instead of war.

Let there be peace and love.

Let there be a bright future for everybody  
who exists on planet Earth, forever.

*by Kyle Thompson*



My poem has a lot of love.  
Football players love to lay people out.  
Baseball players love to hit home runs.  
Hockey players love to get in fights.  
Basketball players love to win games by one shot.

*by Isaac Vargas*

**Let there be. . .**

Let there be dolphins  
in the ocean

Let there be rings of  
lollipops

Let there be butterflies  
scattered in the secrets  
of life

Let there be buildings  
that the homeless  
can live in

Let there be pearls  
in a clam's mouth

Let there be stars  
in the moon light  
sky

Let there be hope  
in the secrets of  
love

*by Kayla Cottrell*

## Courage and Fear

Courage charges at the rhino and  
Fear runs from the rhino.

Courage flies on a golden eagle and  
Fear runs away from the eagle.

Courage charges into battle, when  
Fear runs away from the battle.

Courage rides on a dolphin,  
and Fear takes a boat.

Courage rides on an Akita in Alaska,  
while Fear is in a tent.

Courage runs at a tiger, when  
Fear runs from a butterfly.

*by Tora Haagen-Smit*

## I Learn by Myself

From playing soccer, I learn to be active,  
soccer taught me to eat healthy.

From doing math I learn to be smart,  
math taught me to get A+.

From playing with my friends, I learn to be nice.  
friends taught me to just have fun.

From poetry I learn to write what I want  
poetry taught me to write whatever I want.

*by Angelica Meza*

## Search for a Friend

I look for a friend who's hidden  
deep and faraway.  
I look for a friend who is  
small and lonely.  
I look for a friend who  
cries day and night.  
I look for a friend  
who has a gold heart.  
I look for a friend  
who has a silver soul.  
I look for a friend who  
squeaks quietly.  
When I look for a friend,  
it will say my name, until I find it.  
When I find my friend,  
it will be happy and so  
will I.

*by Jessica Lien*



There is a time for a dark day  
and one light

A time for anger  
and for happiness

A time of soaring  
and of laughing

A time for fire  
and of water

A time for black  
and for white

A time for silence  
and for sound

A time for under  
and for above

A time for puzzling  
and for obvious

A time for tangled  
and for free

A time for Yin  
and for Yang

*by James Alexander*

## Alphabet Poem

Ants attack apes  
Bees bump buckets  
Cats carry cars  
Ducks do dances  
Elephants eat eggs  
Fish fry flamingos  
Goats grab girls  
Horses hear hair  
Iguanas inspect ice  
Jellyfish jump jacks  
Koalas kidnap kangaroos  
Lions learn L.A.  
Mice munch mousse  
Newts nap near  
Octopi open oranges  
Pandas pack potatoes  
Quail quarrel questions  
Rats rake raccoons  
Snakes snap snails  
Turtles tear tape  
Umbrella birds use ukuleles  
Vultures value vacuums  
Whales wear walls  
X-ray fish x-ray xylophones  
Yaks yell yellow  
Zebras zap zombies

*by Blaine Taylor*

## The Light in the Sky

The fast tornado swept up a basketball  
to change into a basketball court

The babies played basketball while they  
turned into lay-up experts

At night, the lay-up experts were flying and  
turned into fireflies

The fireflies flew on top of the shark water  
shining their light

The fireflies light turned into a sun  
where the sun shined its light forever  
like a big basketball.

*by Enrique Ruano*



A poem hides under your feet  
just waiting for you to fall asleep

A poem hides right around the corner  
like playing a game of hide-and-seek

A poem hides at the end of a straw  
just waiting for you to finish your tangy drink

A poem hides at the end of the race  
just waiting for you to stop and pace

A poem hides in your pencil  
just waiting for you to write it down.

*by Daniel Toscano*

## Show Me Mountains

Show me how rough you are.  
Show me how tall you are.  
Show me what's under you.  
Show me the boulders that form you.  
Show me the snow that's on your peak.  
From climbing I learned to bungee jump.  
I went up. I went up the mountain.

*by Oscar Hernandez*

## My Poem

*inspired by a painting of Oaxaca by Cristina*

I want to tell you  
about the sun that shines  
bright. It makes me be all  
I can be.  
It helps me think when I'm sad  
I sometimes get distracted  
by the blue mountain and the pink  
bird. I like to look at the  
little creatures that live in the  
red lava and think about the  
beautiful things in my picture.  
That is my poem

*by Jenna Murphy*

## **Blossoms in the Night**

*inspired by Paul Klee's "Blüten in der Nacht"*

The sunflowers are tall like a  
giraffe.  
They are like the color of gold shining in the  
moonlight.  
Something is lurking behind them, and waiting.  
Waiting for day to come, or the  
world  
to spin,  
waiting for a seed to fall

*by Natalie Ryerson Baumgartner*

## **The Baby Who Cried About the Tsunami**

*For Otsuchi, Japan, March 2011*

I was in a tsunami and I saw a shark,  
The earth was so noisy that everybody started to cry.  
My clothes were all wet, so I had to buy new clothes.  
Then an earthquake happened,  
Then I turned into a baby,  
                    crawling and crying so loud  
that the whole world  
                    heard me crying.

*by Ricardo Padilla*

## Something

I will give you something.  
Something that will float.  
I will give you wood.  
I will give you a boat.  
Something that will help you.  
I won't give you a knife.  
I won't give you weapons.  
I won't give you violence.  
I will give you something.  
Something that will make this situation easier.

*by Kevin Portillo*

## The Feeling of Me

shyness stays in you  
power speaks up

shyness hides inside you  
power is noticed

shyness is like the rain afraid of coming  
power is like the loud thunder and bold lightning

shyness wears silence  
power wears courage

shyness is like the baby bird that no one hears  
power is like the lion that roars

shyness is me  
power is someone else

*by Maggie Vichi*

## **Believer**

For every blackout, let there be light.  
For every depression, let there be faith.  
For every ruined today, let there be a new tomorrow.  
For every shadowy sundown, may there be a bright sunrise.  
For every broken bone, may there be a cast of love.  
For every child, let there be a song.  
For every death, let there be a new life.  
For every dark ending, may there be a new beginning.  
For every believer, let there be hope.

*by Aiden Miller*

## **The Lonely Heart**

*inspired by Keba Konte's photo "Black Seed"*

In this picture I see a face on a beautiful  
piece of wood and  
a clear leaf  
with a wizard's hand inside  
and the hand is holding  
a heart that was  
broken

*by Ryan Mehling*

## A Bracelet

I will give you a  
bracelet  
A bracelet of joy  
the bracelet will

shine  
under the  
moon

The moon  
will go  
down

the sun will come  
up  
the bracelet  
will  
change colors  
under the  
sun

The sun will  
go down  
the stars  
will come  
up  
The bracelet  
will  
sparkle  
under the  
stars

The stars  
will go  
down  
And it will  
happen  
all over again.

*by Katelynn Trujillo*

## Think of Me

Think of me  
great grandma

Remember us  
washing dishes  
outside.

Think of the  
time we went  
to visit you and  
time goes by

Remember us  
caring for  
you. And time  
goes by fast.

Think of the  
time we were  
walking on the  
beach. And time  
goes by quickly.

Remember when  
we visited you  
for a sad ending

Think of us  
crying at  
the end

*by Elizar Villalpando*

## The Evolution

I was a hawk of ice flying fast

I flew fast and evolved into a fire  
eagle flying with wind so loud  
it made earthquakes

When my fire dies,  
so will I

*by Jose Garcia Gaytan*

## Up and Off

When I get in the water,  
I feel like I've just been energized by a lighting  
bolt.

When I get in the water,  
I'm ready to beat everyone.

When I start to race,  
I dream of the Olympics.

When I dive in,  
I'm ready to kick like a frog in breaststroke.

When I jump off the block,  
I'm ready to win.

*by Skyler Saunders*

## Into the Dark

My poem hides in the deep dark forest  
The wind from the eagle blows it away  
Into a dark and mysterious cave with crystals all  
over  
Two dark red eyes, a dragon blows it away  
Into the dark city  
A hummingbird picks it up with its claw  
and went to a signal of peace  
The bird crossed over a dark lake and  
dropped  
it  
in  
my  
yard  
Where it all began

*by Christian Lopez Maldonado*

## The Lonely Poem

My poem is not fun  
If you ate it, it will taste like nothing  
If you touched my poem, it would hurt  
If you smelled my poem, it would smell bad  
If you looked at a paper, you would have cried  
If you used it to make a paper airplane,  
it would not fly at all  
If you put it away, it would  
run  
like a tiger

*by Cris Casarez Santana*

## Poem Melody

My poem is not in singing,  
but in the song.

My poem is not in a hole,  
but in the wonders of a black hole.

My poem is not in rain,  
but in the terrifying hurricane.

My poem is not in the melody of a guitar,  
but in the sounds of a bone-chattering violin.

My poem is in the wings of a majestic bird.

My poem is not in a dolphin or horse,  
but in both combined.

My poem is not in daisies,  
but in a patch of four-leaf clovers.

My poem is not in shining gold,  
but in sparkling emeralds.

My poem is a singing melody.

*by Cassidy Pitts*

## A Recipe for Bravery

First, take a gold bowl and put an eagle feather in it.

Then take the blood of a dragon and a unicorn,  
and a few drops of your own.

Stir with big, strong swirls  
and bake in the fire of a dragon.

Then blend, and serve as a drink,  
in a room lit with a soft glow.

And then you have courage.

*by Cloe Tarlton*

## Nonsensical

A pencil asks questions about the green  
euphoria that whispers of yesterday's laughter  
about the reality of people.

Raven of the island talks of this with a  
swan who swam in a tsunami. Together they  
start a moss fire in turn trying on the shoe  
of blindness.

Thunder shows its true poem when illuminated  
by lightning. That poem is this poem of nonsensical  
amazing words.

*by Josepha Sugrue*

## **I Was in a Dream**

I was in a dream  
where there are dolphins in the icy tsunami.  
I am in a dream  
where there are dragonflies that become daisies.  
I was in a dream  
where there are island crabs next to the palm trees.  
I am in a dream  
where the cheetahs roar on the deep blue earth.  
I was in a dream  
where the bells ring loud but also quiet.  
I am in a dream  
where lightning and dark thunder join together.  
I was in a dream.

*by Andrea Gaona*

## **Tornado of Me**

I started as a whisper and morphed into a  
ghost, flew and flew until the airplane  
brought me to the answer, I  
then turned into a spider  
when dreams brought me  
to the flame of a  
fire that disappeared  
then became a  
top spiraling  
into infinity  
when a  
piano  
became an  
orchid that blossomed  
into a mountain  
then I ended as a  
tornado.

*by Justin May*

## **My Poem is Not Cool**

My poem is not fun, it is sunny  
It is like a whale makes their sound  
My poem is like the ocean sound  
The poem feels like I am swimming in the deep blue sea.  
My poem is like a wolf howling in the dark, scary night.  
The ocean is very calm,  
It is like I am swimming in my cool glass of water  
My poem is sunny like snakes slithering in the desert.  
My poem feels like soft baby skin when they crawl  
In the ocean.  
My poem feels like water dropping out of the sky.  
The poem is like it is lost  
in the green gigantic forest like my pencil.  
My poem is like a sunny warm day with a newborn baby.

*by Lorena Cauich*

## **Who am I?**

Who am I?  
Am I a fish, or a spider?  
Am I in the future, or the past?  
Do I like sweet or sour things?  
Is this Friday, or Monday?  
Where am I?  
Do I swing to fly, or do I slide to swing?  
Am I like stars from the past, or eagles from the future?  
Do I like ups, or downs?  
Why don't I know who I am?  
I still have a lot of questions, but I still  
don't know,  
who is going to answer them?

*by Maryann Estrella*

## If Only . . .

His fur gray as the clouds of a hurricane  
His movements fluid as water,  
but if only he could stay  
with me

Rather than die  
that tragic day he was  
lost, and will not be  
found

He is gone but not forgotten  
no, never forgotten

I can remember his silky  
fur, I can remember even  
his breath and the number of  
times he drank my water. . .

seven. . .

He lives now in Heaven,  
the white-pawed

Maine Coon by the name of Bruce. *by Faye Benally*

## A Recipe for Sadness

The hot taste of anger soup  
is made by getting lava,  
then add hot sauce,  
put it in a bowl,  
then add jalapeños,  
then put it in a blender,  
then put it in the oven and burn it,  
then when you eat it,  
you will be angry.  
That is how you make angry soup.

*by Josue Manzano*

## Feelings

The excitement when the ball hits the bat.  
The happiness when you're running the bases  
and people are cheering you on.  
The wisdom you feel when  
you hit a home run.  
The success you get when  
you're done running the bases.  
The harmony you hear  
when people say good job  
and give you high fives.  
The surprise when  
you figure out you made the team.

*by Dillynn Perry*

## Tomahawk

I started as the world that whispered  
but as questions bubbled up through the dreams of  
the sea,  
I swam as mallard ducks to Atlantis that was  
covered  
with a mystery. I clothed the world  
in a cloak of time, and  
flew across the galaxy,  
in the skin of a starry winged albatross,  
and found a tsunami that couldn't see a thing,  
and another whispering world,  
that sang sweet songs to me.

*by Lucia Jones*

## Healing

I believe that the thing that runs  
everything  
looks down and laughs upon us  
as she/he throws his/her catastrophes  
down on us.

In a way he/she strengthens us as  
beings  
and enables us to get used to the  
loved ones who are leaving.

In this time of darkness,  
we as human beings get closer  
to one another. We huddle  
with our sisters, we  
huddle with our brothers,  
and we get used to the plate  
that no longer holds a meal,

So what he or she means from  
all this is to strengthen the best  
gift of all, the wonderful  
gift to heal.

*by Ruby Setnik*

## My Journey

Once upon a time I  
transformed  
    into  
        a J-bird of Saturday  
I became the  
    owl of the  
        bitter lemon  
I changed into  
    the tornado  
        of the question  
I shrunk into  
    the spiders  
        of the future  
I grew into  
    the gold fish of  
        the science class  
I turned into a  
    dog of  
        a lot of success  
I became the  
    gold of midnight  
I returned to  
    my  
        own  
        shape  
That's when  
    my journey  
        ends.

*by Jazmin Hernandez*

## **A Gift for You**

A gift for  
you, made of hope filled vases and love  
filled roses.

A gift for  
you, made of baskets of faith, and  
toys of music.

A gift for  
you, made of bouquets of joy and  
cups of pride.

A gift for  
you, made of handfuls of happiness and  
bunches of beauty.

A gift for  
all, made of peace and joy, and kind  
hearts.

A gift for  
the  
world.

*by Colton Hopper*

## **Anger**

Anger is a trumpet that's out of tune.  
Anger is like a tiger roaring at you.

Anger is like a team losing.  
Anger is when you don't have freedom.

Anger is when nobody is quiet.  
Anger is when you don't have peace.

*by Rosendo May*

## The Waterfall

*inspired by painting "The Falls at Tivoli"*

I hear the water  
blow  
into the heart of  
the rock  
that feels heat every  
day  
Just feeling the water hit my face makes me smile  
the water  
feels like a breeze in the sky waiting for someone to  
touch it

it looks like the water about to kiss the  
waterfall  
flowing down  
*by Savannah Hood*

## Wonder & Surprise: What Will I Be Next?

Saturday I turned into a unicorn  
and flew to the future  
and back.  
Then a tornado swept me off  
my feet.  
Then I lost my phone,  
and I returned  
at midnight.  
Then I turned  
into a megalion and swam  
Then I turned back  
into my self,  
and that was a sweet Saturday.  
*by Mersaydez Smith*

## Tsunami

I get up from the big blast  
of rubble and junk sweeping me  
away

I open my eyes  
I see nothing but horror  
people hanging from trees  
mothers crying until they can cry no more

My heart breaks  
I can do nothing,  
helpless.

*by Maya deLoche*

## Fearless

I am fearless like a lion in the jungle  
I am fearless like a tank in the army

I am fearless like a wrestler  
I am fearless like a rabid bull

I am fearless like a cheetah chasing a deer  
I am fearless like a hawk

I am adventurous,  
I want to travel to other states

I am adventurous,  
I want to travel around the earth

I am adventurous,  
I want to travel to the moon

I also want to travel  
to the other stars and planets.

*by Alex Gibney*

## When I Have Fear

When I have fear  
in my body, I shake like the trees in the wind.

When I have fear in my head,  
I think like I know everything.

When I have fear  
in my  
stomach,  
I get  
butterflies in my stomach  
and I feel like I'm floating  
in the dark blue sky.

When I have fear  
I run to open fields with  
lots of daisy flowers and  
fall on my back.

I look at the clouds.  
When I have  
fear and  
the wind hits me I  
feel like I'm flying like  
a bird.

When I have fear, I  
wear wildcat purple flowers.  
The way I get rid  
of fear  
is to imagine  
braveness.

*by Serena Bowman*

## **I Will Give You. . .**

I will give you a table of happiness.  
I will give you a piñata of joy.  
I will give you a vase of moonlight.  
I will give you a hat of excitement.  
I will give you balloons of Jupiter.  
I will give you a bracelet of love.  
I will give you the moon and the sun.  
I will give you the world of peace.

*by Amiah Lopez*

## **I am a Dragon**

I am a fox  
walking in flames  
of despair while

a black rose  
is growing  
in the desert.

I am lost  
in the earthquake.

I am a dragon  
in the midnight sky  
thinking about the rain  
in my eyes.

*by Adreanna Lancaster*

## **My Hidden Poem**

My poem hides in the hearts of wild horses running  
free.

Maybe my poem is in the rushing waves of the  
ocean.

I found my poem in the moonlight.

My poem is now here, but in me.

*by Aliya Johnson*

## **A Purpose for Everything**

Everywhere around the world  
there is always a purpose for everything;  
a time to laugh and a time to cry  
a time for rain and a time for sunshine  
a time to play and a time to sleep  
a time for leaves to fall  
and a time for them to grow  
a time to shout and a time to whisper  
a time for poems written from your heart.

*by Celeste Munoz*



I will give you wind chimes  
in wind. The Gulf disaster  
cost a few tears. The graffiti  
in town cost a few tears.  
The technology in a city  
in London has graffiti.  
I melted the other story,  
the other story was about  
killing people. This story is  
about peace.

*by Devon Clemons*

### **My Poem is on Fire**

My poem is on fire  
I can't put it out  
It is in the desert  
It brightens the night  
It makes all rivers dry  
It will burn for centuries to come

*by Derek Porter*