

It is time again for a sorority favorite - our poetry contest. It is also a favorite to judge, reading all the thoughtful and witty entries from our members. We hope you enjoy reading these as much as we did. And many thanks to all our sisters who submitted these heartfelt poems. We appreciate you!

1st

“The Reflection in the Mirror”

I walked pass the mirror,
My reflection I didn't see,
As I glanced at the image,
It glanced back at me.

It looked quiet familiar,
Someone I once knew well.
I took a moment to reflect
And my heart began to swell.

The years were younger than I remembered,
The hair with a little show of gray,
The lips full with an upward curve,
I remembered them well that way.

The years had not yet befallen.
The lines were faint and few
But the reflection in the mirror,
Was someone I well knew.

When I began to focus,
The tears began to fall
For the reflection in the mirror,
Was now only a picture on the wall.

A memory in my heart,
A warm hug I miss so much.
For the reflection in the mirror
Was my mother's loving touch.

Barbara Perkins
Florida Preceptor Chi, Tallahassee

2009 Poetry

2nd

“Share My Journey”

In the element of transition
Whose shadowed paths are sensitive
I find myself with a muddled mind.

The journey is well underway
Gathering knowledge every day
I search for clarity.

To a destination I never planned to travel
A mystery continues to unravel
Crossing the borders into the unknown.

My vocabulary, words once soft spoken and tender
To oncology, chemo and radiation must surrender
In “medicalisms” and candid cancer talk.

My heart sings with optimism, the love of life
I have the will to fight the good fight
In God I will place my trust.

Marilyn Harris
**Missouri Alpha Delta Omicron,
Bonne Terre**

3rd

“Friend”

“Friend” is such a little word,
six letters written down.
Just one syllable when heard,
classified a simple noun.

“Friend” is such a lovely word,
honest, kind and true.
Six letters of encouragement,
for surely friends are heaven-sent,
like you.

Sherry Geer Guralnick
California Laureate Phi, San Diego

Contest

Honorable Mentions

“Looking Into Egypt”

Kitty in the doorway
Doesn't even know
That someone's watching him
As he hunkers low.

Seeing Kitty's whiskers twitch
While dreams take him far away.
Where he's sitting by the Nile
On a hot and sultry day.

Next to him a princess
Robed in gold and silk
Offers him a drink
From an onyx bowl of milk.

As Kitty snuggles in her lap
She brushes out his fur
And deep within him comes
A throaty rumbling purr.

So for now I leave him
Because he is I know
Looking into Egypt
Long, long ago.

Laura Eberle
California Xi Nu Psi, San Diego



“Curtains”

I see the car pull up to the curb
My neighbors do also
Their curtains close with relief and sadness
Relief in the knowledge that the occupants of
the car are not there to see them
Sadness because another has fallen from our
small community.

At the knock on the door I prepare my face
I want to hold it together long enough for these
soldiers to deliver the message
I do not want to make their mission any harder
than necessary
Once I close the door on their straight backs I
sink to a place I am not sure I will ever
rise from.

Janet Beal
Connecticut Alpha Eta, Torrington

“Quiet Rewards”

The stream is swift and cold
Falling snowflakes fill the brisk air
The mountains stand as sentinels
The quietness is everywhere

I'm alone in thought
My emotions swell
I realize you're gone
Your life's journey done

The realization sets in
Your existence has ended
Fond memories remain
You've gained the reward

I'm surrounded by your legacy
We know your pain is gone
You have been taken home
To be the Lord's very own.

Rozanne Worrell
Wyoming Xi Alpha Eta, Torrington