

POETRY

Strong, was a person I knew

~by Cora

Strong, was a person I knew
 who never gave up
 who was courageous and fierce
 but most of all
 she was a friend,
 a person who cared
 a person who loved
 and a person who didn't judge*
 what you looked like
 or what you were like
 to her you were special,
 to ME she was special
 she was and will always be
 my friend
 even if she isn't
 down here on
 earth with
 me,
 she is still
 in
 my heart

With in the walls of sanity

~by Amy

With in the walls of sanity
 The pure of mind confide
 And well these walls of old are strong
 The opposite still can breach
 And well the battle flags
 The fight for love and lust
 The visage exterior contorts
 As the inner strife wages on
 No comfort can be found
 Wile discloser is unwise
 For this battle nigh not there's
 Its for you alone to wage
 When the banner waves on high
 And all is said and done
 We resign
 For insanity has won

It's been so long since I've seen ya

~by Kiara

It's been so long since I've seen ya, now I have freedom of speech and freedom of pride, and now I don't sit here wonderin' why, I cry, I tried so hard to, when I left you it set me free

I didn't wanna let you go, cuz I loved you, I gave you all my love when you needed me, you said I was nothing at all, I used to walk around and just say ohhhh oh ohhhh oh, don't wanna let you go

You used to look in my eyes and say I'm a star but when I look at you I wonder who u r, but when you said it you would be away so far, I believed everyword you that you said, like how you were nice, I was just right you asked me if I love you I asked what is love cuz the love I have is for the one above

i didn't wanna let you go, cuz I loved you so I gave you all my love when you needed me, you said I was nothing at all, I used to walk around and just say ohhhh oh ohhhhhh oh don't wanna let you go

Light of my Life

~ By Terry

In the darkness I was lost.
Unable to find my way,
stumbling upon the road.

Then I saw the light,
it filled my soul with immense warmth.

The light was caring,
it lifted me when I was down,
separated me from the darkness.

The light grew brighter
with every new experience.
It loved me when nothing else would...

A Love was Lost

~ By Terry

A love was made
A spark in Fire
A love was made
And with desire

A spark to flame
A flame with heat
They're all the same
All with heat

But the wind
Will come crash down
And the fire
Will drop far down

A fire burned
With love and care
But we all learned
What happened there

A new rain poured
Over the blazing fire
It had once roared
But it was dire

A love was lost
Again that day
And came the frost
Over a heart with nowhere to lay

The Beauty of Autumn

~by Jennifer

My eyes water
over the beauty of autumn ...

Leaves changing color
in hues of orange, copper, and gold
spinning to the ground - the trees ever so bare.

An older woman in plaid
harvests the last of her summers take
prepares her garden before the first snowflake.

A sudden rustle startles my nerves
nature's creatures in harmony
saying goodbye before the coming of winter.

Slowly, I take it all in
as children collect Mother Nature's treasures in hopes of preserving her natural beauty.

The aroma of a freshly cooked meal fills the air as I passed by a home where pumpkins line the front porch through a window view I see, a family joyfully sharing their day.

Nights are long - days are short
evening starts to approach
a gentle breeze encircles me, as I make my way home.

As I looked to the heavens, in a silent sort of way the stars are brighter, the sky more clearer the moon lighting my way.

A tear leaves my eye, as I embrace autumn's beauty knowing that this moment will not last forever.

SHORT STORIES

Alone

~by Chelsea

A frown appeared on her face as she stared up at the clouds. With a fleeting thought, she looked to the space next to her. No one was there. In her crazy jaunts in the rain and in the field to stare at the clouds, she was alone. People did not understand her. They knew her, but they didn't understand her. She was quiet and loud, philosophical and childish, a dreamer and a realist, an over-achiever and lazy, she liked nature and despised it, and she was different. Sometimes people just didn't give her a chance.

She sighed and got up from the field and walked back to the road. It was beginning to rain and the steam was evaporating off the pavement. "Ah," she sighed, contentment evident. She was calm when she was alone, but she couldn't help wishing there was someone who could enjoy it alongside her.

BOOK REVIEWS

To Boo or Not to Boo

~by Ivan

The novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* depicts life in the south during the 1930's and shows the crime of racism. Skillfully written by Harper Lee, it was published in 1960. The book has sold over fifteen million copies and inspires many readers even today. Lee tells the story so well in her own way, but what attracts people so much is Lee's talent for developing character. Boo Radley is an excellent example.

Although Boo Radley does not appear much until near the end of the book, he does play a large role during the development of the story. Jem and Scout, the main characters, first introduce Boo to the reader by trying to get a glimpse of him. They fail and start making up untrue horror stories about him. They think of him as a blood-sucking vampire who kills people at night. The two children believe that Boo has no feelings at all and, to their amusement, play games about him.

However, Boo is not cruel. He has a very complex personality. Another character in the story by the name of Miss Maudie states that a mockingbird is one who makes music for us to enjoy. "They don't eat up people's gardens, don't nest in corncribs, they don't do one thing but sing their hearts out for us. That's why it's a sin to kill a mockingbird" (90). To me Boo is the sort of person who never scorns other people. Boo would always secretly help Jem and Scout and would always protect them. He was the person who put the gifts for them under the tree. Boo warmed up Scout and Jem while it was cold. He even noticed when to help them when Jem

tore his pants. Boo sewed Jem's pants back together after Jem had ripped them on his fence. In fact, he even saved the children from a murderer. Boo showed his kind and caring side as the story drew to a close.

Harper Lee created a true masterpiece. *To Kill a Mockingbird* is a wonderfully told story about a group of characters that will never be forgotten. Boo Radley is one of her greatest examples of creating character. It has taught me not to boo at other people, but to be generous to others, just like Boo.



Monkdas ~by Ying



Pandas ~by Ying



Lonely Nyte ~by Ying