



# 2022 Rose Poetry Winners

For Kids 3rd through 8th Grade

## 3rd to 4th Grade Winner

### Loren Gillette

- 3rd grade,
- Pembroke Hill School, Kansas City, MO

Bees buzzing all around –  
The beautiful rose heard their sound.  
I have to do it. I have to bloom.  
Come on bees, zoom-zoom-zoom!

Open up – hurry, hurry, hurry.  
Now bees, don't you worry.  
Patience, patience – it's time you learn.  
Now rose, don't be stern.

I finally did it! I bloomed at last.  
Come on, bees, let's have a blast!

#### Why the judges awarded the prize to Loren's poem:

Spring always lifts our spirits, and this year we're even more excited to get out into the warm air, sunshine, and to feel ourselves start to bloom again. Loren's poem captures our exuberance.

Loren uses many of a poet's favorite methods for pulling us in and making us skip through a garden: rhyme (bloom/zoom, hurry/worry), alliteration (bees buzzing, and repeating the popping start sounds of b and p), repetition (hurry hurry, zoom zoom, even patience patience sounds playful). In the final line, when the rose invites the bees to have a blast with her, we feel invited to the party, too.

## 5th to 6th Grade Winner

### Lelah Brenchley

- 5th grade
- Home school, Belton, MO

#### A Morning Rose

One morning I opened my window  
And to my surprise and delight  
A beautiful rose was sitting there  
All sunny, warm, and bright.  
I ran and picked it, the beautiful rose  
And the sweet smell of it tickled my nose.  
I ran inside and put it in a jar  
And then I looked at it from afar.  
It was gleaming with dew in the morning light  
And I thought,  
How beautiful that rose looks all shining and bright.

#### Why the judges awarded the prize to Lelah's poem:

Lelah also won a Rose Poetry Prize in 2020, proving that perseverance pays off. Continuing to practice one's skill is the key to success. Most adult authors wrote as children, felt that spark that kept them wanting to write more. The Kansas City Rose Society and The Writers Place are proud to see their plan of encouraging young writers is working.

Even though Lelah says, "I ran and picked it," this poem has a quieter, more contemplative tone. The emphasis is on beauty and light. Longer lines and repetition of what she sees bring the reader back to admire the rose with her. Again repetition, rhyme, and alliteration run throughout the poem. You might even call them the window and jar that show off the rose.

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# 7th to 8th Grade Winner

## Hollis Glidden

- 7th grade
- Home school, Stilwell, KS

If you walk in the fields  
On one of the summer's later days  
You'll find a red rose  
Dancing  
In the sun's waning rays.

She laughed with her friends  
And gossiped with the breeze  
Who had wonderful news of the hardworking bees.

But the bitter north wind  
Swept over the meadow  
Withering the roses  
In his dark, angry shadow.

So the rose waited.

For her friends  
For the sun  
For the rain and the fun

One month passed  
And then two  
Then two more  
And still the rose waited just as patient as before

And finally, just as her patience was wavering  
The sun woke  
And with it woke the world  
In its excitement quavering.

So if you have time  
Go visit the rose.  
You'll find her, as always  
in the laughing meadows.

### Why the judges awarded the prize to Virginia's poem:

Virginia writes with sophistication and craft knowledge you'd expect of an older writer. Both word choice and punctuation contribute to pacing and the mood of the writing as it moves from light-hearted playfulness through the long, slow pace of lonely winter...and back.

You know a poem is good when you want to read it again, and when you want to quote a line. Stanza two begins with a typical moment to depict fun: "She laughed with her friends," then comes the surprise and delight: "And gossiped with the breeze / Who had wonderful news of the hardworking bees."

In the next stanza, "Dark shadow" is a common word pairing, but putting "angry" between those words creates a dramatic mood and season shift. We feel the chill.

"So the rose waited." We almost want to pronounce "period." It perfectly shows the rose's understanding of what will happen, and her patient resignation to her fate. Then Virginia lets the lines about the long wait spill down the page without punctuation until we get through life's cycle again. Small, finishing touches make a big difference.