



2022 Contest Entries

Evie F., age 12, in Maryland

FINALIST:

"Brain Freeze"

Birds are chirping,
I devour my sweet Dole Whip,
Content, but then I gasp.

"The Drop"

I am descending,
My heart racing rapidly,
The suspense is lost.

Anje P., age 10, in Pretoria, South Africa

FEATURED:

Freshly cut, striped white,
urging me to run. A red
ribbon finish line.

Julia A., age 13, in Florida

My teacher asked me
if I was done my homework.
I replied, "Tomorrow."

A lonely knight rides
across the wintry bluffs
questing for a spell.

Madelyn P., age 13, in Virginia

3rd PLACE

Haiku:

A red cardinal
hops through the wet garden and
over fallen leaves

Senryu:

The tapping of keys
Strings of code across the screen
A turtle creeps on

Sarah S., age 12, in Alberta

SNOW LEOPARD

Blazing eyes staring,
Into your soul as you stand,
Among hills of snow.

FEATURED:

PLAY WITH ME

A lonely wind comes,
Wanting to play with the trees,
Now dancing with leaves.

Isabelle C., age 13, in Ontario

FEATURED:

Skimming round the pond
A graceful, carefree skater
Suddenly falls flat.

Charlie P., age 13, in Waikato

Sweet taste floods my mouth.
Filling me with joy and bliss.
Bursting with good cheer.

Haikus: certain length.

Must have twenty syllables.

Wait... I am right about that, right?

Mathilda T., age 10, in Western Australia

FEATURED:

A cornered dog stares
at the soapy bubble bath,
a puffed man pounces.

Stylish and snazzy,
ready to dash, now I stare
at my stained dress.

A squirrel gathers nuts
amongst crisp leaves, while a wolf
teeth bared, waits to pounce.

Evangeline A., age 15, in Ohio

FINALIST:

Look at the small child
his knee scraped and red from his bike,
Look at his wise grin

A small delicate
snowflake falls onto my face,
freezing my tears in place

Reagan A., age 12, in California

Humiliation Senryu

Wearing new blue Crocs
Sandy beach is nice today
I tripped on my face.

Sand flies in my eyes
Everybody was laughing
Humiliating.

Logan A., age 14, in California

The Blip Haiku

Parks and streets empty
Friends and family gone at the
Snap of a finger

The Pink Protector Senryu

Kirby guards Dream Land
If you attack he won't care
Unless you steal cake

Alexis Z., age 11, in Western Australia

FEATURED:

My eyes open up
Blankets twisted around me
Room filled with sunlight

Lincoln B., age 14, in Ontario

Cold, with snow everywhere

I enjoy a white winter

Rolling in the snow

FEATURED:

Mud all on my shoes

Making gardens everywhere

cool breeze on my skin

Oliver D., age 12, in California

FEATURED:

Senryu #1

I asked for ketchup

On my hotdog at the stand

He added hot sauce

Senryu #2

I thought we were friends

He said he's too good for me

Then he walks away

Nala K., age 10, in Western Australia

1st PLACE:

DEW PEARLS

Sparkling pearls of dew
On a silver cabbage leaf;
Gift of the Morning.

Astrid D., age 13, in Ontario

A dragon walks, cold,
Frost crunches beneath her feet,
Breath puffs out like steam.

FEATURED:

Once a kittypet,
He lived with his loved twolegs,*
Now a warrior.
(*humans)

Laura W., age 13, in Saskatchewan

Phoenix

A phoenix rises
from the ashes and glory
is fully restored

BOOM

A wizard mixes
random spells together and
BOOM he blows up castle

Brennan C., age 11, in New Mexico

Revelation

As the sun grows dark
The world has truly ended
And the race is done

Genesis

In the beginning
Darkness reveals Messiah
And the race begins

Aeson C., age 13, in New Mexico

Through dark glooms of night
The light on the horizon
Will always break through

When you say goodnight
Close the door, turn out the lights
The shadows will leave

Mitchell M., age 13, in North Carolina

An empty bird's nest
sits on a nearly bare tree
as leaves flutter by.

Went for an x-ray,
Radiation to my brain.
Zap! Pow! X-ray man!

Megan M., age 11, in Indiana

2nd PLACE:

A muddy puddle
exploding as I splash through
soaks me head to toe.

Hearing a child's laugh
turning cartwheels with a smile
it fills me with joy!

Lydia C., age 12, in California

Tornado

Spinning whirling top
Destruction catastrophe
Everything ruined

Virus

Nature exploded
Pandemic destroyed the fun
We have restarted

Cecelia P., age 14, in Maryland

A mom is napping.
Her son pokes her and yells,
"Mom! Are you asleep?"

The sweet smelling wind
Impels a lonely brown leaf
Across the pumpkin patch

Brianna S., age 13, in Colorado

FEATURED:

I hear a crunching
It's coming from the litter box
Oh, it's just my dog...

My cat's name is Pip
She is tearing around the house
Rats, there goes my lamp.

Emma B., age 14, in Maryland

The dog chases his tail.
He catches it and bites down,
He howls in pain.

The cool spring wind blows,
The leaves rustle in the trees,
The birds sing a song.

Mikayla S., age 15, in Colorado

"Bugs taste foul" says one,
Another agrees, chewing
His mouthful of snail.

The Night of Ethereal Light

Moon misted by cloud
Vale of snow and stars descend
Upon the dark trees

Ethan D., age 14, in New Mexico

The furious wind,
Fueled by the raging sun,
hurls the plane down.

The jet's sonic boom
Disturbs the silent air here,
It came from thin air.

Brock S., age 11, in Alaska

Haiku (2)

The cloud soars up high
Through the sky like a sheep in
A big blue meadow.

Warm sunshine, blue skies,
Clouds approach on horizon...
A storm's coming fast!

Senryu (2)

Waiter pours a drink
Looks at commotion outside,
Pours the drink on man.

FEATURED:

Man blows out candles
On birthday cake and his false
Teeth shoot from his mouth.

Zachary J., age 14, in North Dakota

To Be Not

Out of existence.

Think, this would be very strange.

You would feel nothing.

Life

A sweet gift from God.

Life is very precious.

Conception to death.

Felix J., age 11, in North Dakota

Love

Love is around us.

It blossoms everywhere.

We feel it in our midst.

Books

Books are our dear friends.

Knowledge is contained in them.

We read and have joy.

Eleni V., age 10, in Western Australia

The sun blazes down

The chicks chirping in my ear

All adorned in brown

Tired and weary

I gaze over your cradle

A new creation

The swish of the net

A triumphant cry goes up

After all those nerves