

POETRY, Honorable Mention: Allison Tate

Teacher: Dr. Jessica Seat, Batesville High School

A Spring Once Remembered

The dreary Winter settles in for another unforgivingly frigid night
Howls of the relentless Wind reach beyond the walls of comfort and solace
Its chill is enough to seep into bones, possibly even the soul itself
Warmth can no longer delay the colds inevitable rampage
A towering forest stands uncannily in the distance, somehow undisturbed by the raging gusts of
sheer sleet, sorrow, and shivers
Time itself seems frozen, unmoving, dead
The world nothing more than an immortal white blanket of despair

Painting a contrasting mural with its brush of life and color, the early dawn of Spring yearns to
be remembered
The frost remains nothing but an afterthought, lingering only in the gentle Breeze that once
haunted nights like a wolf of Wind
The Earth, formerly frozen, now nurtures pollinators and birds alike
Rolling hills no longer reflect with the unending diamond white of Winter, now saturated with
greens as vibrant as emeralds
Gemstone flowers sprout from these hills, each a beautiful new beginning, a new symphony
Trees burst with jade leafs, the sky clear as opalite
With this richness of life, Passion and Purpose is reinfused into the soul
Where they once lingered, frozen in the cloudiness of the mind in Winter, they now play and
flow freely in Spring's gemstone fields