

Teen Poetry

1st Place

Lillian M.

Death of a Gardener

The garden is gone.
The plot now is empty
Though summer's not done,
And the leaves that come Autumn-time would have been bare,
Now, in his garden, are not even there.

The pond is filled in.
The one lined with flowers
That ran round its rim,
Set so one could tell they were planted with care.
But they couldn't keep on, with their planter not there.

The trucks at his house left just last night.
They had leveled the plot.
My heart lurched at the sight.
The house's foundation was promptly expanded,
So that after a death, a new family could be planted.

The gardener isn't here to see
That to death his garden followed him,
The loss of its legacy mourned by me.
Such has made gone to maker, and trowel to rust,
And gardener to God, and his garden to dust.

Teen Poetry

2nd Place

Nicole A. M.

A frail heartbeat that would last

Only an hour.

Your mother holds you against her warm breast

As tears slide down her cheeks.

She sings to you songs meant

For late nights by your cradle,

Not a cold hospital, not farewell.

Your father rubs your back and presses

Soft kisses into your hair. He whispers

I love you next to your ear,

So that he is sure you hear it.

So, in that hour,

Before you depart for a kingdom

Without sorrow, two feeble creatures

You would have called

Mother and father give to you

All the love in the world.

Teen Poetry

3rd Place

Asmitha M.

Past, Present, Future

Past:

I am your creator

I shaped you into who you are now

I am, in a way, the dictator

For to me, you must bow

No matter how hard you may try

You cannot change me

So don't try to defy

It's better to accept reality

Present:

I say put the past behind

Why fret and waste away

You only live once- you are timed

So live for today

Stay in the present

Every night go to bed

Having enjoyed that day to the full extent

Thinking about what's ahead

Future:

I am your fate

Look towards me with hope in the eye

For me, you can manipulate

But be careful, the stakes may be high

You are in control

So think and act wise

Your purpose should come from the soul

And in life you will rise.