Upper Left Coast Productions' Diamante Poetry Contest

BEACH

Beach sand phosphorescence drifting blowing shining feet dance toes water approaching splashing receding wet cold Ocean

Audrey Hoffman

Ocean briny frigid breaking splashing crashing reef kelp seashell seagull stretching roiling undeviating sandy granulitic Shore

Yoonie Kim

Ocean cold stormy crashing stirring turning wetness power heat fire burning frying scorching dry sandy Desert

Lisa Yock

Back in September we invited you to enter a noncompetative poetry contest, of a specific kind of poetry called Diamante. It is based not on rhythm or rhyme but on grammar. It consists of sixteen words in seven lines; the first line being a noun and the subject; the second line two adjectives describing the subject; the third line, three participles (verbs used as adjectives by adding "ing"); the fourth line four nouns, the first two related to the subject and the last two related to the final noun; line five, the same as line three but regarding the final noun; line six, two adjectives describing the final noun; and the seventh line a noun that is the opposite of the subject or first noun.

James Patton, a regular contributor and poet as well as a teacher, suggested this, so in

his own edited words;

Never having sponsored a poetry contest of any kind we were not too sure of what to expect in the way of entries and were pleased and a little overwhelmed by the more than two hundred submissions received. (238-Ed.)

Poems came from Salem and Seattle and points in between. Their subjects ranged from the meaning of life to canned meat. Some were direct and some were obscure. All were interesting reading and enjoyed by the judges.

Since there is always subjectivity to the enjoyment of any poem, and since no "big money" (in fact no money) was involved, the judges decided to present the top three poems in each category without ranking them. It might be noted that this also prevented further argument and possible violence among the judges. The staff of the Upper Left Edge congratulates and celebrates your poetry.

SERIOUS

School hectic friendly rushing studying working assignment deadline television telephone relaxing talking eating calm comfortable Home

Lisa Lancaster

Rage crimson livid striking pounding breaking regret silence passion vision rolling breathing caressing direct scarlet Lust

Shellee Billings

Forests green quiet swaying sighing growing abundance peace rape greed suffering wailing dying naked ugly Clearcut

Ann Berlureau

HUMOR

Sonny short wimpy singing voting electing Republican dork makeup singer singing singing selling stylish aging Cher

Kyril Cuetkor (?)

Headache pain torture throbbing hurting splitting Aspirin Advil NyQuil Codeine relaxing resting snoozing calm peaceful Sleep

Meri Thornbrue

Girls noisy pretty talking gossiping flirting notes hair sports money playing spitting fighting muscular haughty Boys

Brian Garlick

"WE REALLY LIKED IT BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHY"

Oregon green rainy growing dispersing conserving trees mountains people buildings polluting overcrowding destroying congested sunny California

Jon Baldwin

IN AN UNJUST WORLD...JUSTICE.

Personal Injury Lawyer

GREGORY KAFOURY

Spam cubic unidentifiable fearing chewing smiling tin meat? jar crystals! Sipping swishing hemorrhaging Sugary orange Tang

Brian Boone

Sinus pressure bothersome unpleasant overwhelming unrelenting irritating compression stress liberation alleviation soothing relieving comforting relaxed cured

Ken Carpenter

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Of course it's possible to love a human being if you don't know them too well. Charles Bukowski