

Poetry Series

**Dyhanara Rios**  
**- poems -**

**Publication Date:**  
2010

**Publisher:**  
Poemhunter.com - The World's Poetry Archive

## Dyhanara Rios(11/06/94)

Poet and piano/vocalist Dyhanara Rios has been active in writing poetry, reading it to others, and entering contests for the past four years. In 2010, Rios has won First Place in Texas for the Texas Career Association Poetry Contest, and Honorable Mention at the Northside Independent School District May Day Poetry Contest (and published in the contest's anthology) .

## ...I'll Claim To Forget

I wonder if I could've shielded my eyes  
It's love so deep I resorted to cheesy rhymes  
To conceal or only hint at my crimes  
I fumbled with my pen  
Nervous for the first time  
Lost in your eyes  
(I...forgot this line)  
I loved you then and love you still  
I always have and always will  
(And...I...forgot this line)

Every embrace brightens my face  
Every smile spins me dizzy for a while  
Every touch is motivating  
Every word is captivating  
Every second in your presence  
Moments made magical under fluorescence

Let's have an adventure...or, we can chill  
Whatever you want, whatever's your thrill  
You make me lovesick; I'll always be ill  
Terms of endearment make my heartstrings trill  
I loved you then and love you still  
I always have and always will  
My lovely, lovely (I forgot the rest of this line)

Dyhanara Rios

## ...Until You Return...

Perhaps my soul is coin-operated;  
It sits somewhere in or around my being,  
Closed by a lock on the top,  
Engraved with a truth:  
"Insert Compassion And Understanding."

Opened, and I owe you something.  
Should it take eternity to discover what that is,  
I hope you'll live for eternity and a day,  
Just to savor the bliss.

Perhaps my mind is sealed up tight?  
Restraints conceal the fear of short sight.  
Creatively wield a knife  
To reveal workings of my life.

Broken, and I owe you something.  
In the words I write  
Or the words I sing?  
In the battles I fight  
To defend you, innocent thing?

When words cannot further explain  
The beauty from such a longing pain  
A poet might stop the stanza.

When words can no longer outline  
The beauty of one's intricate design,  
A poet should stop the poem  
Before pointless words rattle on  
Like the echoes of yesterday.

Dyhanara Rios

# A Clear Beachside Dream

I had a dream  
Where you were laying next to me  
On a blanket on the beach  
On the sand in total serenity.

Other than this, the dream was free  
Of lucidity; except

Whales and seagulls moved in a blur,  
And you did not dare demur  
As I pressed my cheek against yours  
And felt love radiating out our pores.

Other than this, the dream was free  
Of lucidity; but wait!

Now I remember the date;  
It was late in December  
And somewhat cold,  
But our love was a growing ember  
Burning for beachdwellers to behold.

Other than this, the dream was free  
Of lucidity; except, the place -

It was a beach in South Texas;  
I assume South Padre Isle,  
As you subtly grazed  
The key on my necklace  
While our fire of love blazed  
On for such a long while.

Other than this, the dream was free  
Of lucidity.

Dyhanara Rios

# A Current Of Thoughts

I heard a lecture on ocean currents,  
And how they affect our Earth,  
Just how do they do it?  
Well, weather systems get their  
Energy from the sun.  
What is the sun but another star?  
Among the billions and trillions  
That occupy this universe.  
What is the universe?  
Was it all created by a divine force,  
Or forces of nature?  
I'm not taking sides,  
But it's hard to think straight  
With all these thoughts in my mind.  
Moving, drifting, growing, shifting,  
Forming internally, brewing viscerally,  
Like the ocean currents.

Dyhanara Rios

# A Different Place To Drink Coffee

(Honorable Mention winner at Northside ISD's May Day Poetry Contest)

I pick up my fork but drop it just as fast;  
My coffee, eggs, and tacos  
Have me dwelling on the past.  
Please excuse me, I'm simply sad;  
Too much has happened lately.

Grandpa doesn't walk among us anymore.  
I helped carry the weight of his casket,  
And now I carry the truth that he's standing  
In a better place, smiling down on my face.

Sadness shakes my status quo;  
Confusion settles,  
Emotions flow,  
And I'm chilled by an air of despair.

Please excuse me, I'm simply sad;  
I've thought about it too much lately.

Grandpa and I rose before the sun did  
On every Sunday morning.  
We went to church  
And had breakfast afterwards.  
We'd read the Sunday paper  
On every Sunday morning.

The last time I stepped foot in the church  
Was the day of his funeral,  
In silence and mourning.  
If I returned, I would find myself crying,  
Remembering the days he was dying.

Those were the days of breakfast in bed,  
Where I refilled his coffee  
And fluffed the pillows under his head.  
But now that the earth is not his home,  
I assume his pillows are clouds, pearly white;

And his coffee is heated with rays of sunlight.

Please excuse me, I'm simply sad;  
Sunday breakfast just isn't the same.

Dyhanara Rios

# A Look At Yesterday

Look up;  
Stare at the night sky.  
Watch the twinkling lights  
Of these beautiful nights.  
There's the star I made a wish on  
Just yesterday.

Look down;  
There's a beautiful garden.  
The flowers on the ground  
Cannot make a sound,  
But they seem to be calling me,  
Back to the memories of what happened  
Just yesterday.

Look around;  
It's the perfect setting  
For writing poetry.  
Find a place in the grass,  
Sprinkled in dewdrops  
That glitter like glass.  
There's the tree I sat under  
Just yesterday.

Dyhanara Rios

# A Monster Within Winter Times

Now I'm crawling with chills;  
Withdrawal is breaking me down.  
I will spend the rest of my life  
Hunting my drug  
And forcing it out of everyone I know -  
Stealing the energy from those I love.

I've become a monster!  
It's a new year and no one,  
Oh, no one will recognize the new me

Pretty little miss,  
I mean you no harm, just  
Oh, just cuddle with me;  
I'll never tell.  
If I'm not in your arms,  
I'm wrapped in hell.

My heart beats in a slow, awkward tempo  
Compared to the rising rhythm of yours.

You have to admit  
We love the warmth of it all.  
My wishes were finally granted  
and that's not all -  
It's all platonic love, my love  
(Maybe not even that; have a look at that) ,  
Nothing to worry about, love,  
I'd never, ever hurt you, love.  
You have to admit that you, love,  
Will someday grow into a monster, too -  
A bear that requires cuddling to survive  
The winter and hibernate in peace.

For now I'll hold my own Winter bear;  
For now the memories will be enough,  
But I'm waiting, craving someone's touch.

Years will pass and seasons will change

But I will freeze with my innocent fantasies  
Should reality not grant my wishes again.

Dyhanara Rios

# A New Husky

Abandoned puppy wandering the street  
bark but no bite, no further will to fight

picked up, adorned in Green and Gold  
now a legacy, a dream to behold

under Administration, Staff, and Faculty  
of generosity and award-winning quality

becoming a Decathlete  
testing, speaking, winning at every meet  
medals sparkle and gleam  
on myself and the team

holding up the standards  
of Honor Societies  
so here's to EHS and NHS  
the absolute best  
at HHS and BCHS

rescued as a puppy  
proud to be a Husky

to remember and be remembered for years  
among the kindest and wisest peers  
proud to be home at Business Careers

Dyhanara Rios

# A New Mistake

Waking up...  
Stuffy nose and indie clothes  
Eyeliner streaks on my arms  
Mascara is burning  
My damp swollen eyes  
I had forgotten  
Last night's cries  
Go back  
Re-read my half-asleep rants  
That went on until four in the morning  
And I blame it all on solitude  
My headache is  
Thumping hurting burning  
I haven't been this broken down  
In a long time.

A new typography lesson  
Becomes a new mistake  
An awkward moment  
As I broke down on you again

Acknowledgement, then silence.  
Then I couldn't sleep a couple hours  
Hours and hours and hours  
Of 'why does it end up like this'  
Hours and hours then half an hour  
Of 'getting summer reading done'

Trying to lay back down in bed  
Finish the soda at my bedside  
The caffeine, no ailment to my head  
As I wonder, who am I really inside?

That new cryptic message  
Became a new mistake  
A new reason for you to run away  
An awkward moment  
As I need to apologize again



# A Poem On Not Having Time To Write Poems

There hasn't been much time for writing (crying)  
Only scattered thoughts and rhymes (cries)  
Bouncing off the walls of my mind (eyes)  
'Scattered' is my new favorite word  
That's what everything appears to be these days  
But in what's scattered I find  
An exponential number of patterns  
Everything is time consuming  
And time consumes everything  
I find myself finding reality  
Creeping into my life more and more each day  
Turmoil corrupts my world  
Just tell me everything will turn out okay  
Just tell me everything will turn out okay

Dyhanara Rios

# A Spring Symphony

It was well before the summertime when  
Several of us gathered to perform in a glen.  
We brought along all our instruments  
And sat among the riverbed's sediments.

With pride, we blasted in multi-harmony  
As hummingbirds keep in tempo with every wing  
And newborn cardinals find their power to sing  
And we lose ourselves to this spring symphony.

Dyhanara Rios

# After The Catastrophe

You let me down;  
You were always there  
To listen and to care,  
But when I needed you the most,  
You faded away into thin air.

You let me down  
When I needed you that day.  
You were standing in the shadows  
And less than ten feet from the fray.  
You saw the disaster unfold;  
You were there to behold  
A moment of catastrophe,  
And you had the chance to save me.

You've had your chance to save me.

You let me down,  
So I'll let you go.  
I thought you were actually something,  
Yet I feel like I'm letting go of nothing.

I won't stand in your shadow;  
I won't go forth and follow  
You and your life  
And your empty, awful lies.

And as these tears rise  
From the depths of my eyes,  
It's still such a surprise  
That even after the catastrophe,  
And after your chance to save me,  
You still let me fall to demise.

Dyhanara Rios

# All In Future Lives

I remember in this classroom  
Sharing stories of the times  
And wondering to myself  
If I'd remember all this  
In future lives.

Would I find you standing at the  
Top of a twisted technological tower  
Letting your self-confidence drain  
As I tried to comfort you,  
As I tried to steal the pain  
And make it mine again?

Did this all happen before?  
Were you standing at a cavern door  
Protecting your children from a horror,  
A rampant dinosaur,  
As I tried so eagerly to  
Save the day and  
Break into your life?

Will you be at your desk tomorrow  
Hiding every bit of your sorrow  
As I selfishly burden you  
With my thoughts of future times?  
All while I secretly contemplate  
Breaking into your future lives.

Dyhanara Rios

# Alone

I could be at a huge party,  
But I might still feel alone.  
I could be in a crowd of people,  
But I might still feel alone.

So many people are full of bad intentions,  
But I think I've freed myself from that.  
Who am I supposed to trust now?

Alone, shunned, but not forgotten.  
They won't remember me for my talents,  
But for the small mistakes I made.  
And there's no way to tell them the truth;  
They won't believe in me,  
They don't believe in You.  
How can they deny our Lord and Savior?  
He who made the world – our Creator.  
They claim to follow the faith of Them,  
But look at how they're drowning in sin.

Hypocritical as they push me away  
And say God will never love me.  
Hypocritical as they rally to shun me  
And say I'm too ugly for God to love me.

Dyhanara Rios

# Alternative Fuel Power

Your smile is another sun;  
Listen now, it's just that pretty.  
It could power a whole house,  
No, it could power a whole city.  
I'm not supposed to stare  
At something so bright,  
But I don't have a care;  
I wouldn't mind going blind.

We'd have no need for fossil fuel  
If we powered the world on you.

Dyhanara Rios

# Apple Of Deception

You were the apple of my eye,  
Always listening, always kind.  
Until I accidentally sliced you,  
And saw the rotten core inside.

There's no other way to say this,  
Your skin was a cheap disguise!  
There's no other way to put this,  
You peeled and revealed your lies.

You were the apple of my eye,  
But I saw the core inside,  
So I lost all hope in you,  
And then I lost sight of you.

Should've thought twice  
Before falling off the tree  
To come down and strike me,  
'Cause that wasn't very nice.

You're no longer the apple of my eye  
So I had to throw you out somehow  
I look back in the garbage can and sigh,  
"I'm more of an orange person now."

Dyhanara Rios

# At The Crack Of Dawn

At the crack of dawn,  
I woke up on the fourth of June.  
I knew something would happen that day,  
But...not so soon...

And I had prepared myself.  
I ran through every possibility;  
I knew anything could happen that day,  
But...in reality...

The clock said it was two hours after noon,  
My friends and I had made our good-byes,  
And as for the moment that I had prepared,  
I suddenly got nervous and almost scared.

The reality was the one possibility  
That hadn't even crossed my mind:  
Where the once-good friend  
Had become the enemy,  
Decided to leave me behind,  
But wouldn't let the battle end.

And so the war began.

At the crack of dawn,  
I woke up on the 25th of August.  
I waited for something to happen today,  
But all my fears were lost in dust.

And I prepared myself.  
I ran through every possibility,  
I knew anything could happen today,  
But then...suddenly...

The clock said it was three quarters after three,  
Nothing had happened, so I thought I was free.  
And as for the moment that I had prepared,  
It never came to be, so I was no longer scared.

The reality was the one possibility  
That hadn't even crossed my mind:  
Where the long-ago friend  
Was still the enemy,  
Yet chose to leave the war behind.  
But did the battle really come to an end?

Dyhanara Rios

# Autumn Evening

One autumn evening, I was raking leaves,  
Under a full moon and the glittering sky.  
Two birds sang in harmony atop the trees,  
Watched me a while, then decided to fly.

Then I thought about that school day.  
And all the things we had to say.  
For the first time in a while,  
I felt alive and could truly smile.

This morning was nothing short of wonderful;  
Our conversation over music, simply beautiful.  
I have always adored our time together,  
Intellectually talking about the weather,  
Or talking about life as it passes us by.

As I watch the day turn into night,  
I marveled at the glittering lights  
Of the sun, the moon, and the stars.  
But none quite as bright as you are.

Nothing comes close to the warmly feeling  
Recalling memories on an autumn evening.

Dyhanara Rios

# Ballad Of The Sycamore Tree

When the drone of the school day  
Became a terrible bore,  
The best of friends would hang out  
For a moment under the old sycamore.

A few girls would carve initials  
Of all the boys that they adore  
Into the bark under the cover of dark  
For a moment under the old sycamore.

The bad kids would talk about their day  
And all the teachers they would ignore,  
Planning their next skip or prank  
For a moment under the old sycamore.

On Valentine's Day, you could find  
That there would be a candy store  
For kids to buy last minute chocolates  
For a moment under the old sycamore.

When waiting for a ride home,  
A few kids would nap and snore  
And dream of how tomorrow would be  
For a moment under the old sycamore.

Sadly, it was the tree's time to fall:  
It broke, falling to the stone floor  
We stood in remembrance and silence  
For a moment under the old sycamore.

Dyhanara Rios

# Battlefield Monstrosity

Miscommunication;  
No, I'm the monstrosity  
That caused this tragedy;  
The battlefield reaches  
Farther than our eyes can see.

We have a strong friendship;  
We can fight a stronger war.  
But I want things to be  
The way they used to be  
And not as they are.

We all make mistakes;  
Myself more than anyone.  
Now, what will it take  
For you to forgive me  
And let me come home?  
I'll do whatever it takes  
To stop this terrible monster soul.

We have a strong friendship;  
We can fight a stronger war,  
But I want things to be  
The way they used to be  
And not as they are.

Right now, my first and foremost goal  
Is to show you that I'll defeat the soul  
Of the battlefield monstrosity  
That prevents us from being  
The happiness we used to be.  
I'll make things better again;  
Just leave it up to me, my friend.

Dyhanara Rios

# Beach Hymm

Our souls could use some sand and waves  
Let us worship at the bay  
We'll go some weekend in May  
To swim the sea and sun rays

Dyhanara Rios

# Before The End Of Time

Twenty thousand years could pass;  
Millenniums could come and go.  
Civilization could conquer grass,  
But one thing I do know...

I know that you'll be mine  
Before the end of our time.

Twenty thousand tears I'll shed,  
Many loved ones I'll lose.  
And I could be left alone for dead,  
But one thing I do know...

I know that you'll be mine  
Before the end of our time.

Twenty thousand fears and more exist  
But only one belongs to me,  
The fear that someday you'll hate me!  
And if, by chance, you do hate me,  
Maybe I'd hate myself for years,  
Maybe I'd drown myself in tears,  
But one thing I do know...

I know that you'll be mine  
Before the end of our time.

Dyhanara Rios

# Between The Lines

I'd build you a snowman in the summer  
(Although I've never even seen it snow) .  
I'd carry you across the Atlantic Ocean  
(More than three thousand miles, I know) .  
I'd do anything impossible just for you  
(Whatever you want, whatever you say) .  
I'd leave this room if you asked me to  
(Like how you kicked me out the other day) .

If you smile, my smile will be twice as wide  
(Even if I had the worst day ever) .  
If you listen, I'll talk to you and confide  
(You'll be my best friend forever) .  
If you can, you should read all my poetry  
(I adore you, half or more of it is for you) .  
If you read between the lines, you'll see  
(Just how much you mean to me) .

Dyhanara Rios

# Blue Shell Assault

(Inspired by Mario Kart Wii)

I'm tough and heavy on the Wario Bike  
Battling for first place  
Against some streamlined Standard Kart.  
The timing couldn't be worse  
For a blue shell assault -  
Racers in the back  
Throw everything they've got  
One shell, two shell,  
Red shell, blue shell,  
And the underdogs win the race.

Dyhanara Rios

# Blueprints

This is the line  
That would've begun all rhymes  
This is the time  
That would've broken the pattern

This is the part  
That would cheesily compare  
Your soul to the sun above  
And your heart, so filled with care  
To my passion for your compassion  
(Mi amor por el sol)

This is what would be a whisper of gratitude  
For making me happy by slaying the solitude  
Lifting me to life from the tomb of fear inside

(Mi amor por el sol, mi amor por el sol)

This is the stanza that would show  
How much I appreciate  
That you help me grow  
Like the nameless plant on your windowsill  
Once dying, but living still  
Once turning brown, but green again  
This poem that I would've written  
Was just too difficult to begin

(Mi amor por el sol)

Dyhanara Rios

# Bridges

I left the year without a single tear;  
My heart's desire became a fading fire.  
I wanted to leave without reason to grieve.  
I got my wish; I didn't cry,  
But in the corner of my eye,  
I saw my heart's desire become a fading fire.

I left the school walking out so cool.  
I always wonder if I'll return  
To visit friends or with intention to burn  
Bridges of a few so-called "friendships."

You and I were so cool together,  
But I wonder if you'll remember  
The times I'd slip and trip  
On our thin ice bridge of friendship,  
And the times my cries would thunder  
Until you let waters of troubled times run under.

How much longer until I'm a forgotten memory?  
How much longer until you can't remember me?

Dyhanara Rios

# Broken More Often Than Not

Many things are meant to be broken –  
Whether materialistic or unspoken.  
This is just to list a few  
Things broken by you, some by me, too:  
Glass mirrors and crystal vases,  
Toothy smiles on smirking faces,  
And every silly guideline and rule  
Which we are meant to follow at school.

Dyhanara Rios

# Current Control

In these oceans of change,  
Our souls will lead the way.

The currents are strong,  
And my arms are weak,  
But I am the savior  
Within your reach.

With all that I have,  
I reach out my hands –  
With almost nothing left to give.  
But I would rather die  
Trying to saving your life  
Than try to find a will to live  
(All alone without you) .

In these oceans of change,  
Souls can get swept away.

I have no direction,  
I have no control,  
All I know is how the currents pull.

Momentarily with direction,  
For a second, I have control.  
No matter what, dear friend,  
I will try and save your soul.

Now I have no direction,  
I cannot regain control,  
Any longer now  
And the currents will have my soul.  
Any farther down  
And the currents will have my soul.

I have regained direction,  
Now I'm in total control,  
And this huge adventure  
Will make us two whole.

Dyhanara Rios

# Dandelion

There's some dandelions down the street,  
And they fly away almost as if in retreat.  
Where will their journey take them today?

I held a dandelion in my hand;  
A piece of cotton picked out of the land.  
What more is there to say?

Wait until the wind blows;  
Take a breath and there it goes,  
Fading away like yesterday.

Dyhanara Rios

# Dedication

Saving sounds  
Pop the CD out  
I am jittery with joy

I wish I could see  
The look on your face  
When my voice and my music  
Boom  
And fill up the space  
With love and rock and hope and rhyme  
For those few minutes of time

Dyhanara Rios

# Deepest Of My Doubt

You've started acting strange;  
The status quo starts to change,  
And I'm plunged into  
The deepest of my doubt  
When it comes to you.

Yet, in the deepest of my doubt,  
You save my soul and pull me out  
Of the hell I had been suffering.

And in the deepest of my doubt,  
You help me find the happiness  
I know I just can't live without.

In the deepest of my doubt,  
I see you in a different light.

Dyhanara Rios

# Defeat

Defeat is an ugly feeling:  
You had those goals  
You worked so hard for,  
Just to see it all shatter...

You feel down at least a day,  
Hanging your head low  
For all the world to see,  
And listen to their chatter...

Howling with laughter;  
Such people are hyenas  
Feeding off your misery,  
But it doesn't even matter...

The glares you're given  
Make you feel much worse.  
Losing crushes you, then  
The world makes you flatter...

Who cares if these days  
Haven't been your prime?  
Hold your head high with faith;  
You'll win in due time.

Dyhanara Rios

# Desperate

Staying up and staying awake  
Losing track of the hours  
As I try to keep the conversation flowing

You're always the one that has to go  
And I'm the one putting my life on hold  
Just to hear you greet me

I tried putting our skills to the test  
Waiting to see if the first word's on me  
Or if you'll actually say hello to me

Initiative  
Assertiveness  
You know, things you could work on  
And I've been toning it down on my end

Why do my thoughts roam in a frantic rush  
In the instant your words make me blush  
All the while it's hard to make you smile

Losing track of time  
And losing my mind  
As I try to keep the conversation flowing  
And you don't seem to mind

Losing track of time  
And losing my mind  
As I try to improve your character  
All the while stop you from growing  
So you'll never even think of leaving

Dyhanara Rios

# Different Hours, Different Flowers

I spotted some sunflowers:

Concealing the lawn in a blanket of gold,  
In the early dawn it's a beauty to behold.  
Covered in glistening, glass drops of dew,  
Petals waving in the wind, a visceral view  
That I took a picture of to save  
For another day.

I spotted some moonflowers:

Where were they that afternoon?  
I suppose they prefer to bloom  
Only under the silver moon.  
When the sun rises, they will retreat  
Into their quiet, closed-budded sleep  
For another day.

I spotted some starflowers:

Five pointed purple petals,  
Embossed with yellow veins.  
Perhaps I saw these in a dream?  
But that story is better saved  
For another day.

Dyhanara Rios

# Disconnected

You never listen to me;  
You never look me in the eyes.  
I still struggle to see  
How you simply push me aside.

I no longer believe  
That you were ever on my side.  
You told everyone that you loved me,  
But I was the last thing on your mind.

You don't know me at all,  
And you've never even tried.  
Now I'll let you take the fall  
For every time you've lied.

From January to December,  
I have yet to remember,  
The last time you cared about anything,  
The last time your heart was ever seen.

Everything that I have gone through,  
Compared to when I knew the truth,  
It's all nothing now,  
We are nothing now.

Disconnection,  
Broken up,  
Imperfection,  
On the run.

Today our hearts have disconnected.  
You knew this would happen, you just knew.  
Letting go, today I'm letting go of  
Everything I ever thought about you.  
Ruins, the time I wasted lays in ruins.

Dyhanara Rios

# Disgrace

When I stand before the mirror,  
The truth becomes much clearer.  
I see your face,  
But I am a disgrace.  
I don't deserve to be your reflection,  
Or the shattered remain of your shadow  
That I am now.

Dyhanara Rios

# Don'T Move Back

Annapolis won't cry for you  
If you're gone another year or two.  
Back to Maryland? Don't you even dare,  
Even if I'm the only one who truly cares.

Please, don't move back to Maryland,  
Stay here with me on the Texas sand.

Portsmouth, on the edge of waters deep  
Where, if you moved back there,  
I wouldn't get much sleep,  
Because without you, it'd be a nightmare.

Oh, don't move back to New Hampshire  
Stay warm with me around a Texas fire.

Charleston, a lovely city by the sea  
But this is all I can see:  
If you're there without me,  
I would barely be able to breathe.

Please, don't move back to South Carolina  
Stay here in Texas because I love ya.

Dyhanara Rios

# Don't Run Away, Glorious Soul

You're keeping me alive  
One day at a time  
How else would I thrive  
Between every rhyme

I will not run away  
I live to seize this day

Please don't run away from me  
Your glorious soul is all I want to see

You're keeping me alive  
One day at a time  
I'll feed off your glorious soul  
Until its purity makes me whole

Dyhanara Rios

# Down And Out, Fist Up High

I may be down,  
But I'm not out.  
I will find a way somehow.

I may be down,  
But I'm not out.  
Impossible is nothing now.

Now you're down,  
Breathe, you're almost out.  
It's useless to make another sound.

Now you're down,  
Breathe, you're almost out.  
I know your soul won't be found.

We didn't want to do this,  
But you left us no choice.  
Up high you held your fist,  
So they silenced your voice.

Now I'll hold my fist up high  
And raise my voice!  
We finally won this time;  
We made a good choice.  
Tonight I'll sing a victory song  
Of what we aimed for all along.

I'm not surprised; I know you'll return,  
But without your soul,  
You'll be no better than dirt.  
Which is better than when it was so cold.

You're down and out,  
But still you hold a fist up high,  
So I shall do the very same;  
Oh how long I've waited for this day!



## Down The Hall

Down the hall, I heard the news;  
My words left you to sing the blues.  
Down the hall, I heard you cry,  
"Why would she do that...why? "  
Down the hall, I heard it all:  
"This just isn't like her at all."  
Down the hall, I heard you say  
Just how much you hated me today.

Dyhanara Rios

# Dragon Of Lies

There's no need to hurt people;  
I thought you'd know that by now.  
Lies are bringing you to corruption;  
You use them to burn the world down.  
Well, I've got news for you;  
You're lying in vain.

You've been deceiving yourself, too.  
You created your own little fantasy.  
So now you're completely blind  
To the hurt you brought to you  
To the hurt you brought to me.  
Well, I've got news for you;  
You've been bringing pain.

Your life is just a book of fiction  
With so many pages of contradiction.  
Why not start over with a new edition?  
Newsflash: lying is a pitiful addiction.  
You've been saying that your life is fine;  
That you're perfect and as good as sunshine,  
Well, I've got news for you;  
You're walking through rain.

Well, I've got news for you;  
The dragon in your heart must be slain.

Dyhanara Rios

# Dragonsword Destiny

We three queens of our teens  
Traveled to a crossroads of hopes.  
I stood by your side  
As we used our sorcery  
To fulfill our roles of royalty  
And mess with her mind.

I was once a double agent  
Between her and you.  
When the time came,  
I knew who to choose;  
I was once a double agent,  
But I'll always chose you.

We stood to cast  
Our darker magic,  
Blast after blast.  
The duel wasn't tragic  
Until we fought it all the way through  
And it was obvious I sided with you.

Onlookers shook their heads in shame  
Surprised that we would play this game.

Ever so clever and ever so smart,  
We both held the Dragonsword  
To stab through her heart:  
A life lesson our only reward.

Her assassination filled my eyes with guilt  
As I lay on the plain thinking that nothing  
Would ever be the same.

You'd no reason for this treason or the crime;  
Alas, I know our victim will forgive us in time.

Dyhanara Rios

# Dream Attachment

Wake up from this dream?  
You can't make me!  
Nor can you break me  
From my imaginary world;  
This is insanity unfurled.

Wake me from a dream?  
Only the nightmare that  
I will wake up to reality.

Dyhanara Rios

# Dreamdreamdream

Dream of tolerance  
Dream for peace  
Dream for happiness  
What if everyone could see and believe  
That we can fill this world with wonderfulness  
What if everyone could dreamdreamdream

Dream for fame  
Dream of power  
Dream to play the game  
What if everyone could see and believe  
That everyone should be surrounded by friends  
Everyone can find people who care in the end  
What if everyone could dreamdreamdream

Dream for love  
Dream of hope  
Dream of me  
What if you could see and believe  
How much I love who you can be  
What if you could dreamdreamdream...

Dyhanara Rios

## Drifting/Drowning (Plate Tectonics)

Why does it feel like we're drifting  
Apart more and more each day?  
The smiles we trade have started to fade,  
And my heart needs you more each day.  
So listen up! I'll do whatever it takes  
To keep together the bond we've made,  
Which, somehow, is falling, and one mistake  
Could shatter and fray all that we've made.

Like a church's mosaic windows,  
Our connection sparkles through the day  
As I think of you, your heart so true,  
And stand by you in your shadow.  
One crack on the glass means nothing.  
If it keeps growing larger as it does now,  
Then we lost something as we were drifting  
Apart somehow; I'd do anything to hold you now.

All these tragic events and arguments;  
We're continents of fire and sediments.  
We're drifting continents of despair diverging;  
We're crashing continents of conflict converging.  
Would we transform into anything better  
If we decided to just move past each other?  
We're plate tectonics in real life action;  
The effects stronger than any chemical reaction.

What would happen if I drowned?  
Well, my funeral would feature  
Our favorite classical songs.  
You were my favorite...  
I meant to tell you all along.  
Bury me in a shadow-black gown,  
Black as the sadness that we drifted apart,  
Black as the madness that'd tear me apart.

So if I drifted so far from you that I drowned,  
Would you still stand by my burial ground  
And mourn for me as I drown, six feet down

For the very last time in my shadow-black gown?

Dyhanara Rios

# Editing Blueprints

I just have to think of a title  
I just have to think of a title  
I just need something catchy to make you smile

I wrote these poems after quite some time  
Of trashing and scratching through  
Many a rejected line  
I looked to other poets  
And spoken word performers to inspire me  
But all the inspiration I needed was  
Right in front of me

It's difficult to put in words  
Believe me, I'm trying  
Believe me, I've tried  
And all the memories come flooding back  
Of times I've smiled and times I've cried  
Out of pure joy and happiness  
For all the peace and all the bliss

You're the only one I'll talk to  
You're the only one I trust  
But I need you so much all the time  
And I need you to breathe within  
Every line and every rhyme  
And every line and every rhyme and

Every line  
And every rhyme  
And every line  
And every rhyme  
And every rhyme  
And every line  
And every rhyme  
And every rhyme  
And every line  
And every rhyme



# Eleven And Two

I'm in math class...

Waiting...

Five minutes

Until the bell rings.

Then I'll be off to fourth period,

(Which will leave a lot to think about.)

And history two hours after that.

Fifth period history will hopefully go well;

I haven't studied for the

Big test tomorrow, though.

If I fail again,

I'll probably fail the class.

I can already tell

That the pressure's gonna be hell.

I'm in science class...

Waiting...

Ten minutes

Until the bell rings.

Then I'll be off to fifth period.

But in here, my mind is lost...

Gone...

I've drifted away already.

I'm done with this day already.

I am ready to relive the daydream

That will once again belong to me.

Dyhanara Rios

# Embracing A Cactus

Her needles warned you to stay away  
But you crossed the boundary anyway  
You held her tight until you bled  
You longed to place a kiss on her forehead  
You vowed to save it for the last day  
So you could avoid the price you'd pay

You shed your tears in silence  
Since she never needed the rain  
You had it all down to a science  
Every detail, complex or plain

Oh, no, she never needed the rain

Dyhanara Rios

# Energy Flowing Forth

I found myself wandering  
the depths of my mind  
which are only easily transversed  
while holding the hand of another being

We were not meditating  
in fact we were miles away  
In fact we were simply talking  
Though we were separated  
by particles of space  
and pixels of the place  
I found that I was drawing energy  
from such a blissful moment  
From simply talking

Take a seat and let energy flow  
As you cure me of my blues  
Take a seat and let me know  
I am not a useless human being  
Take a seat and let me show  
You all I can offer to this world

Dyhanara Rios

# Enough Wasting Poems!

You leave me so confused;  
Should I love you  
As much as my heart tells me to?  
Or should I hate you  
As much as everyone else does?  
They say you're the worst;  
I was the first (and only one)  
To say that you're not as evil  
As everyone claims you are.

Every time you look around,  
Won't you miss the musical sound  
Of my praise for you?  
I'm hoping you just might...  
But just enough to make you fight  
The subtle loneliness;  
The growing emptiness inside.  
Maybe enough so that you truly would  
Make an effort to find me if you could  
And let me hold you in my arms again.

I'm only daydreaming this...  
I know I won't be one to miss;  
Or at least one you won't see  
If and when you reminisce.  
Yes, this is just another daydream;  
You probably won't ever remember me.

We've already said goodbye;  
You were hoping it was for the last time.  
I guess it was...I guess it is true;  
I'm wasting my breath on paper;  
This is the last poem I'm wasting on you.

Dyhanara Rios

# Equation Of A Heart

Infinite push and shove

Love and non love

Positive to negative

Negative to positive

Shh, shh

Hidden boundaries

Shh, shh

No apologies

Don't settle for zero

Variables, everywhere

Is it ever free

Or less than three?

Dyhanara Rios

# Evils Eating Me Alive

I fight the darkness

Consuming me

I fight the sadness

Consuming my joy

I fight the will to die

Consuming my life

I fight the consuming powers

I fight the clichés

Consuming my writing

I fight the urges

To give up fighting

I fight the might

Of the consuming powers

I fight their presence

Shadowing my mind

They are so cruel

They are so unkind

I fight their presence

Standing by my side

They reign in rule

Of secrets they find

I fight the consuming hours

Stripping away my productivity

I fight the consuming flowers

Grown from seeds of my sorrows

I fight the consuming towers

From which consuming powers rule

I fight the consuming powers

That take me for a fool

Dyhanara Rios

# Face The Music

Our friendship chord  
Starts to arpeggio,  
And before I know it,  
We're two separate notes  
On the staff of life.

The score of fate has been written,  
And our ending sounds horrifying.

The happiness we had  
Starts to decrescendo,  
And before we know it,  
It completely fades away.

The score of fate  
Has a trouble clef.  
You glissando to it,  
Right over any note  
That got in your way;  
Must've been your forte.

Sing that song again and again  
As you face the music today.  
Sing that song that never ends!  
As I face the music today.

And the song of us has ended.

Dyhanara Rios

# Fate Has Changed (You'Re Just Too Late)

Somehow,  
Someway,  
Maybe I'm  
Insane.  
There's no  
Escape.  
Today, I'm at a standstill,  
Could this be God's will?  
I cannot (alone)  
Try to change fate.  
It's written in stone,  
Or I'm just too late.

Or I'm just too late.

Flames fall and rise from once innocent eyes,  
Accusations were wrong, why not apologize?  
We had one last chance to make things right,  
You blew it to pieces, so I won't cry tonight.

I won't cry tonight.

Somehow,  
Someway,  
But I'm not insane.  
I've found my escape.  
I'm leaving you at a standstill,  
This must've been God's will.  
You cannot (alone)  
Try to change fate.  
It's not written in stone,  
But you're just too late.

You're just too late.

What I first envisioned didn't go as planned,  
The future now shines upon me, how grand.  
It seemed impossible to change fate  
And you're not in mine this time -

You're just too late.

Dyhanara Rios

# Fire

Your voice feels warm in my voice  
You held candles in my dreams  
You exist and don't exist as reality

Someone thought we were "a thing";  
Without having met you  
And I know it's the way I talked about  
The way your eyes light the stars  
That burn bright in my sky  
And steal the oxygen from me

But if we love each other  
To the moon and back  
What's not to say  
In another lifetime  
Maybe we're meant to be

No state of matter, or dark matter  
Explains this dark matter of  
A flame in an alternate universe  
Even if it only exists in my mind  
And my dreams; your heart so kind  
Transcends space and understanding

Dyhanara Rios

# Forever Friendship Road

If I could save one soul  
From the eternal depths of hell,  
I'd probably save my own  
And simply wish you well.  
But, if two souls I could save  
From the terrors of the grave  
I'd make us two immortal;  
A forever friendship road we'd pave.

If I could save one heart  
From tearing and breaking apart,  
Then I'd refuse to have met you  
So as to stop that from the start  
(What am I going to do  
When we finally must part?)  
But, if two hearts could survive  
Every fateful, fatal dive,  
Then I hope they should be ours,  
And that in every day and hour  
We wander along with power  
A forever friendship road we'd pave.

Dyhanara Rios

# Friendship Metaphors

Friendship is a garden for my friends and I,  
And we've sworn that the plants would never die.  
The laughs we shared as we gave it care  
Were as bright and lively as the flowers there.  
The bonds we've grown with the seeds we've sown  
Are greater than all the others I've known.

Friendship is a ship that sometimes sinks in time,  
But the one my friends and I ride sails just fine.  
The stories we share as we journey everywhere  
Were wonderful and uplifting like the ocean air.  
There are many storms throughout the many seas,  
But nothing enough to break their friendship with me.

Friendship is flying through the brightest sky,  
And no one could bring us down if they tried.  
We saw the silver lining of every color of cloud,  
And together we've gotten others off the ground.  
Whether we are on the ground, ocean, or sky,  
We will be friends forever as time passes us by.

Dyhanara Rios

# From Anne's Eyes

(Written for a school project based on The Diary of Anne Frank)

Sitting quietly in the Secret Annex -  
The sun phased through the curtains  
In the break of early day.

A mouse skittered, squeaked, and  
Moved around with barely a sound.  
As he wandered my way, I wondered,  
Do mice ever think about religion?  
Could he be a Jew like us, too?  
Does he pray to our God?  
Has he suffered injustice like we have?

Sitting quietly in the Secret Annex -  
I watched the mouse crawl into the wall:  
His only place to hide away.

The morning droned on,  
But it didn't take long  
For the day to be gone.  
Winds whistled in song  
When night finally came,  
The stars danced so lively,  
And I did the very same.  
The moon shined with joy,  
And I felt the very same.

Sitting quietly in the Secret Annex -  
The next morning might be boring,  
But for now I will enjoy some sleep.

Dyhanara Rios

# Fueling The Fire (To Liberate You)

I was shocked but didn't mind  
When you put me on the spot  
I held my ground and delivered  
Without a second thought

The voices screaming in my head  
Deafen my ears with what I could've said  
Sometimes, it's what we don't say  
That matters at the end of the day

(That one moment) when  
Each and every vein  
Became a poisonous vine  
And the muscles in my throat  
Lost their strength, please note  
That I was not feeling fine

Sadly, this happens to you all the time

Your inability to stand up and express  
How you feel and what's askew  
Fuels my fire to achieve success  
In the show business and liberating you

Dyhanara Rios

# Future Teacher

(1st place winner of Texas Career Association Poetry Contest 2010)

When I am done with school,  
I am turning right back around  
To teach and inspire others,  
Just like my teachers have inspired me.

I will love each and every student:  
I'll listen to their problems,  
Give them praise for the good they've done,  
Congratulate them for awards they've won,  
And have faith in each and every one.

I'll be the teacher everyone loves:  
Who smiles to everyone  
And passes out hugs,  
And encourage all my students  
To excel above and beyond.

I'll still be a student myself,  
Learning lessons about life  
With every day that passes by.

Dyhanara Rios

# Glass

As I walk to the bus stop, I get  
Glass embedded in my shoes  
But if I keep walking  
I know the glass will come loose  
(And these shoes can be sewn)

Looking back at shards in the street  
In every direction, they bear my reflection  
The smudges and jagged edges  
Mirror each imperfection  
Bid me protection from closer inspection  
Or my own stare could turn me to stone

The bus driver must be having a bad day  
Because, I swear, I was at the stop  
But he still pulled away  
Defeated, I glance through the passing window  
Of public transportation indigo  
I see faces weathered by the fray  
Of everyday life that chills to the bone

I swallow my pride and scramble for my phone  
Mi tía, are you out there on the road?  
"No, mija, and I won't help you today  
I don't feel like leaving the house, let alone-"

And, just then, waving in a cruel charade  
My other aunt passes by in her Escalade  
Oh, how quickly these relatives had shown  
Their indifference to helping one of their own

I pull more glass from my soul  
And from my feet with tears  
I wish the blood that seeps out  
Wasn't common with theirs

I swallow my pride and phone someone else  
I hear the smile in their voice, and now I can see  
Who's heart is in it to help the struggling me

They don't even ask why, nor hang me out to dry  
Easing my fears and making my day  
She says "no problem! I'll be there soon, okay? "

When I'm on crutches, or stranded somewhere  
Or I just want a friend, or I need help in prayer  
Blessed am I to have people who care  
As glass crunches and snaps under the car tires  
I am unafraid of glass forming in future fires

Dyhanara Rios

# Hands Up (For My Everything)

Put your hand up  
If my everything  
Has ever touched your life

Keep your hand in the air  
If you think my everything's  
Kindness is ever so rare

Stay standing, hand raised  
If my everything's ways  
Have kept you amazed

My everything is heaven sent  
And from a heavenly descent  
My everything keeps me alive

Dyhanara Rios

# Happier Times

What are the happier times, and  
How do I describe them?  
Apples and caramel?  
Thrilling band concerts?

I can barely remember what makes me happy,  
Sadly, the laughter has been washed from me.

Hey, there's one thing that makes me smile!  
And it's been in front of me all along!  
Pencil and  
Paper and  
Imagination to guide me,  
Never thought about it, really,  
Every idea swirls around me,  
Sometimes they're right in front of me  
Sometimes words are washed from me.

And then I think of why I even write, well  
Great times have been blocked by evil  
And my only way to clear them  
Is to write them out.  
Never have I had reason to cry about.

I know that although they don't quickly come to me  
Knowledge that I've laughed always comforts me  
Only after seeing that the bad memories are erased  
Now the bad times are washed from me.

And the happiness returns.

Laughter washes back up on the oceans of my mind,  
Over time, we will find, memories only hide.  
Today, hide and seek will last eternity.

Dyhanara Rios

# Haunted House

The words bubble at my lips,  
But I refuse to speak anyway.  
For once, I'll keep quiet  
And silence the dreary thoughts.  
The sadness weakens my hips;  
No more boxes will be moved today.  
Forgive me for being so defiant,  
But the shock tied my brain into knots.

The walls have spoken a lot with the centuries;  
Fresh tears rot my diaries and their memories.  
I know spirits haunt this house; I saw one myself.  
They play with the episodic spiders on each shelf

The biggest part of me  
Will be left behind when we leave.  
Could the ghost of my past  
Stay to haunt the next residents?

I fear the change and the quick unknowns;  
The specters and their sorrow sleep my bones.

Dyhanara Rios

# Her Love Vs. My Love

All love is a secret to decipher from a foreign code;  
All love is a life-long lesson so difficult to learn.

But when I travel down that familiar road,  
I make the same mistakes with every turn.

So what if I have a habit I can't help but abhor?  
I'm just waiting for you so silently by your door.

No human achieves perfection;  
I, of course, am no exception.  
You've had enough  
Of my secretive ways.  
You start to lose faith in me  
With every passing day.  
But she doesn't even know you  
The way true friends like us do.

Her love versus my love...  
But you chose her hate and hidden curses  
Over my unconditional love and poetic verses.

Dyhanara Rios

# Hey, Mystery Eyes

What color are your eyes?  
I feel you plotting my demise.  
What happened to you?  
Why is there sadness in your eyes of...blue?

What color are your eyes?  
I won't stand for any lies.  
Do you remember that wonderful Sunday?  
You beheld my ball gown with your eyes of...gray?

What color are your eyes?  
Are they some sort of disguise?  
Regardless, they're the most lovely I've seen,  
Viewing the world through your eyes of...green?

What color are your eyes?  
Intensity starts to rise.  
Dear, you shouldn't fear me, or frown.  
Where is the joy once in your eyes of...brown?

What color are your eyes?  
Do they change with your mood?  
I'd figure it out if I had  
More time to stare you down  
But you always appear to be so mad  
It's not worth the risk now.

Dyhanara Rios

# Hold Me Now

When I breathe in darkness  
The absence of light flows around me  
There is no hint of happiness  
There is no turning back  
The biggest fears consume me  
Rendering my optimism useless and fake  
I know the difference between want and need  
But that doesn't curb my selfish greed  
As I reach out to steal you for the hundredth time  
I fail as my hands slip away  
And I stop myself from feasting on your heart

You are such a stronger person than I

You stole my soul so effortlessly  
I find it hard to believe  
How lovely life would be  
If only you would hold me  
Why give me so much love  
When you're afraid to admit it's true  
You need me as much as I need you

I know you better than anyone else  
But I don't know how to win your heart  
With each and every rhythmic pulse  
Drowning my love becomes a form of art

The simple gesture of an embrace  
Would quiet the paranoia in my mind  
And with all the love it would provide  
I would live in peace and pride  
And my fears would swiftly subside  
Until then, I am dying inside

Dyhanara Rios

# Hopeless Turtle Metamorphosis

Open your eyes, heart, and ears  
I felt your presence with your quivering fears  
Nothing's stopping you from your stubborn ways  
But everything holds you back from breaking free  
From loving you and loving me

You are only as strong as your innermost layer  
Your flawless mask doesn't make you anything

I want to see effort and the will to try  
So I'm not asking for a social butterfly  
I just want you to tear down your facade  
Surf reality and happiness  
By our friendship's esplanade

I think it's hopeless since it hasn't happened yet  
But where would I be  
If I were to circumvent every challenge met

You fear stepping out of comfort zones  
My fear of indifference settles in my bones

I'm not strong enough  
To break you out of your shell  
And I'm not hostile enough  
To lay down a cold farewell

Dyhanara Rios

# I Almost Fell, But...

I picked the path that was only smooth at the end.

Another day went by without happiness,  
Lonely night went by without sleep.  
Memories of bad times flooded back to me;  
Only wishes and dreams seemed to comfort me.  
Sometimes I wished that I had died, and  
Tipping over the edge, I took a dive.

Fourteen days I spent alone and shunned,  
Everywhere I turned, they laughed at me.  
"Let go, " I told myself, then pain would end.  
Letting go would also result in me dead.

Barely near the bottom, you helped me to  
Understand that this was selfish and wrong.  
Tipping over the edge, you saved my life.

Dyhanara Rios

# I Dare You

I dare you to look me straight in the eyes;  
I dare you to see what's wrong with you.  
I dare you to say what's on your mind;  
I dare you to tell me the truth.

Every single tear in this wasted year  
Brings about the fear of losing you, dear.

I dare you to admit the answers to your lies;  
I dare you to see how much they're wrong.  
I dare you to say the questions you're thinking;  
I dare you to tell me the truth.

And now I don't regret  
Everything I ever said to you, and  
Having ever said the following:

I dare you to look me straight in the eyes,  
And lie to me that there's nothing wrong.  
I dare you to say what's on your mind,  
And make it sound like an innocent song.  
I dare you to admit the answers to those lies,  
And how you won't hold on to those for long.

I dare you to say what's on your mind,  
And trust me, there's no hiding this time!  
I dare you to tell us all the truth,  
And all of the things that are evil in you.

Dyhanara Rios

# I Miss You More

Please don't tell me you miss me  
When I have just gotten over crying for you  
Because I know I miss you  
Twice as much as you miss me  
And then I'll start crying again  
In the rain at the bus stop, wishing  
I was curled up on your couch  
Drinking coffee instead  
(Of the dread and tears rolling back in my head)

Dyhanara Rios

# I Miss You So Bad

Have you ever become so close to someone  
That you talk to them at least once a day?  
Where hearing their sweet voice  
Is the only thing to keep you sane?  
When life pulls me into strains of stress  
And miles of mess,  
I find myself hoping for a cure  
From the days and diseases  
I am reluctant to endure.

To hope is to mope;  
To live is to give  
More than you are to the world.  
To survive is to thrive  
Off the beauty in life.

Missing a soul gives you hope that you're friends.  
To reach for them makes you whole again.

Dyhanara Rios

# I Once Lead The Undead

How uncalled for!  
The will to smile is gone forevermore.

The first snap of the schoolbell  
Signaled your riot against peace.

Was your goal to cut us all off in the end?  
My mistake to believe you were a friend.

My mistake to believe you'd love me in the end.

Was your goal to confuse  
The emotions in my head?  
Was your goal to diffuse  
The oceans of the dead?

My fellow classmates cower in fear  
Of your shifting soul  
We used to love to hear

Staring down with your cold mystery eyes  
Once again, you're spelling my demise.

The zombies obey my every command  
And refuse the weakness in your every reprimand.  
I once lead the undead  
To decipher your convoluted mind.

Dyhanara Rios

# I Suppose

The moon shines bright,  
Even more so tonight.  
Yet it always glows,  
I suppose.  
But tonight, I came to realize  
All I ever saw in you was lies.  
In the end, it always shows,  
I suppose.

I suppose things could have gone better?  
Yes, things could have gone a lot better.

But now the sun shines bright,  
And my skin is bathed in light.  
These days are good days,  
I suppose.  
Though your soul gave me quite a fright,  
I won't let it consume me another night,  
It had no moon or sun rays,  
I suppose.

I suppose things have gone for the better...  
No, I know things have gone for the best.

Dyhanara Rios

# If You Give This Girl A Minute

If you give this girl a minute of your time  
She's going to want to unravel your mind  
Unspooling threads of advice and kindness  
Until she's satisfied  
Then she'll feel comfortable enough to  
reach the issues at hand  
And talk about her problems  
However insignificant they may be  
In the whole scheme of things  
Once she's unburdened of (most of)  
what rests on her shoulder  
She'll feel free to succeed because you  
were exactly what she needed at the time  
And when she's done something great  
(Or when life finally went her way)  
She'll come back to you and share her accomplishments  
And she'll be so happy that she'll try  
to express her gratitude in any way she can  
So she'll work on a song  
Writing the melody as sweetly as she can  
But when the challenge takes its toll  
She'll try writing a poem instead  
Writing one verse, then two, then ten  
Shaped into one poem, then two, then four  
And before she writes any more  
She'll want to share some with you  
But she'll need a minute or two of your time  
Reading proudly a thank-you that  
sparked from her brain  
travelled down every vein  
and between every verse and rhyme  
Because you were exactly what she needed at that time in her life

Dyhanara Rios

# I'M Losing Sleep Again

Sleep soundly, dear  
And do not dream  
The nightmares I dream

Sleep soundly, dear  
And do not cry  
When you wake up to reality

Sleep soundly, dear  
And do not believe  
You have woken up already

Sleep soundly, dear  
And do not stop sleepwalking  
Take things slow and steady

Sleep soundly, dear  
And do not pretend  
I'm sleeping soundly, dear friend

Sleep soundly, dear  
And do not lament over  
Why I'm losing sleep myself

Sleep soundly, dear  
And do not leave me  
When you wake up to reality

Dyhanara Rios

# I'M Not Alive

I'm breathing, but  
I'm not alive.  
I'm singing and screaming, but  
I'm dead inside.

Dyhanara Rios

# In Case You've Forgotten

I'm asking for a moment to sit by your side;  
We have things to do, but they can wait.  
I just need a second to talk to you;  
Your time will not be lost in vain.

I just wanted to remind you,  
In case you had forgotten,  
That I'm here for you,  
Looking out for you,  
And I always will be.

Dyhanara Rios

# In Flames, Act 1: The Fire Starts

Listen, now, I need you to hear  
What you need to know, my dear.

When I spoke to you that Friday,  
I never meant to start a fire  
And burn you with my words,  
And yet, it appears I did,  
And I didn't think of anything nice  
To say so I could cure you with ice  
For my pessimistic state-of-mind  
For my arsonist words so unkind

Through the fire's burning flames  
And wondering of who's to blame,  
We both know it was all on me,  
But I can't help it if you're sensitive.

The two of us took the stage;  
The floorboards creaked  
As we stomped in frustration.  
My tears were now falling like rain;  
Your voice was cracking with pain.  
All I wanted was the end of my misery;  
All I wanted was the end of this tragedy.

In unscripted debate,  
We talked with hate;  
I had never even thought about this fate,  
But I knew deep inside it wasn't too late.

Dyhanara Rios

## In Flames, Act 2: Flammability

Take your place back on the stage!  
There's scorch marks on the floor  
From our last moments of rage;  
The audience is begging for more.

We went on like this for a week;  
We took our vows of silence,  
Turning the other cheek.  
Call it a catastrophe of science;  
A chemical reaction  
That called for drastic action.

Most people in the audience  
Were glad to see the fire rise  
From my once blind eyes.  
I "was blind for not seeing the truth  
Of all the evils to be found in you."  
But that was their opinion,  
Quoted from their review.

Some of our friends in the audience  
Sat silent in their seats and started to pray  
That these flames would go out someday,  
And that the two of us would remain  
To rebuild from the ashes.

Who knew we had so much flammability?  
Watching the fire drove me to insanity;  
I knew that I could escape and achieve victory  
By ending this tragedy that corrupted our story.

Dyhanara Rios

## In Flames, Act 3: The Fire Dies

The next Friday, I decided to face  
How I could leave this hell-ridden place;  
It was time I apologized.  
I was waiting outside your door,  
Afraid of what outcome was in store;  
For the first time, I was paralyzed.

I waited,  
And waited...  
And I hated  
This newfound nervousness  
But if I did this right,  
I would get  
Your forgiveness  
And maybe you'd forget  
This fire ever burning.  
Oh, my stomach was churning...

And just when I was about to leave,  
You finally came to the door  
To find me standing outside in a bore.

And you gave me a minute of time  
To give an apologetic speech of mine.  
And you forgave me this second time!  
I am so grateful to call you mine.

And you...took my breath away  
Even when we burned in flames.

Water under the bridge  
Doused the fire out.  
I could forgive myself now;  
We would return to normal somehow.

The tragedy is over,  
But the play isn't done;  
No, it has just begun...



# Inevitable Happy Endings

What do you do  
When time is slipping away?  
Falling right through your hands...  
(Like in an hourglass; time truly is sand) .

You savor every moment  
But those seconds are  
Always passing by...

These are the memories  
That make you want to stay,  
But you know you have to leave,  
Leave so much happiness behind.  
However, it will always be  
Tucked away inside your mind.

What do you do  
When you're so happy  
You start to cry?  
When a few tears start  
To slip from each eye  
And seep into your heart.  
You weep, knowing time  
Is always passing by...

Endings are inevitable...

Time is always passing by...  
And there it goes...

Dyhanara Rios

# Infernal

Your eyes are filled with hate and hell  
As you trap the others in this infernal cell.  
I'm leaving; enjoy your new absolute silence  
As you prepare your next words of violence.

So go ahead; start another fire  
If that is your heart's desire.  
But I won't be here for you to burn.  
Never again to you I will turn,

Demons disguised as friends...  
The truth revealed is never a happy end.

Your eyes are filled with hate and hell;  
Nevertheless, I wish you well.

Dyhanara Rios

# Infinity Cubed

I'm arranging the following words  
In mathematical terms  
To get my message across  
To those who process life differently.

Let's use the transitive property of equality:  
If a equals b, and b equals c, then a equals c.  
So if my love for you is endless,  
And the value of "endless" is infinity,  
Then the value of my love for you equals infinity.

Now for the reflexive property of equality:  
It's very simple – a equals a, easy, isn't it?  
So my love for you will always be the same,  
The value is large and won't change a bit.

Out of curiosity, could someone tell me  
The value for infinity cubed?  
I'm sure it's less than or equal to  
How much I love you.

Dyhanara Rios

# Infinity Squared

The number of mysteries that surround me;  
The number of questions that surround life

The value of my wonder in you.

The joy of accomplishment;  
The honor of righteousness

The value of my pride in you.

The many minutes my mind has reminisced  
All the thoughts of times we've shared.

The value of my love for you.

Although many a mathematician  
Can try to disprove my definition,  
I'm certain that these values  
Are greater than or equal to  
Infinity squared.

Dyhanara Rios

# It Just Takes Time

The tragedy that we weren't friends –  
Even if for just a moment –  
It just didn't feel right.

Feeling alone, upset, and simply dead,  
I told our tragedy to a friend of mine.  
(You know him well, too,  
But he'd never tell you  
That I tell him about me and you) .  
He looked me in the eyes and said,  
"Give her space to erase  
All those bad memories;  
These things just take time.  
You'll both end up fine;  
It just takes time."

By God, he was right.

Dyhanara Rios

# It's Poetry!

It's not a hobby, it's a way of life.  
It's an outlet for stress and strife.  
It's an escape to a different world  
Or understanding what's going on around you.

Sometimes lines rhyme,  
Sometimes they don't.  
Every element and word  
Is shaped with purpose.

Similes and the like form pictures  
To send one's mind on an extravagant trip  
Through the recesses and roads  
Of a poet's mind.

Of a poet's mind,  
There is so much to find.  
From grammar rules to follow, bend, or break  
To memories of happiness or heartbreak

This is how they serve themselves and the world  
Healing their hurt, expressing their joy,  
Or inspiring others throughout this planet

Dyhanara Rios

# I've Had Enough (Our Heaven And Hell)

It takes close to nothing to hurt you, and  
Vindicated are the new ideas of mine.  
Every one of your attempts shall fail.

Hope and faith will be adequate this time,  
And forget about brainwashed armies!  
Down with your choir of demonic angels.

Enter the hall of satanic singers;  
None of the choir is in harmony.  
Over the stage, the heavens are blocked;  
Underneath a hell fire burns bright.  
Grand staves and scores are written in blood.  
Heaven save them, before Satan takes them.

Without a doubt, the group is damned,  
I think everyone now clearly sees  
The truth of your actions and intentions.  
Hail Mary, she can still save you.

You should be put to rest today;  
O God, lay her down in a gold sepulcher,  
Underground of demons won't win tonight.

Dyhanara Rios

# Jump Over

You built your bridges,  
Then burnt them down,  
Turning this world  
Upside down.  
You lost this time around;  
Just jump over, start over.

The last bridge down the road:  
Why not jump over it  
Rather than burn it?  
Now it's time;  
Take the dive.

You walked with me  
Across our bridge,  
But there will never be  
Another time like that.  
You lit a match  
And left me behind,  
But I turned the tables  
When you turned around to find  
I held you prisoner,  
And screamed in my mind:

You built our bridge,  
Then burned it down,  
You turned my world  
Upside down.  
But I won't drown this time around

If I don't see you jump,  
Push will turn to shove.  
And there's no ladder  
To get you back above.

There's a bridge nearby;  
Why not take the chance?  
Jump over before  
The sun's last dance.

You won't be seen,  
You won't be heard,  
But most of all,  
You won't miss the ground,  
And you won't be missed.

...See that last bridge down the road?

Dyhanara Rios

# Just Another Volunteer

Hear me out; stare me down.  
I want you to see how I feel  
Somehow.  
I love when reality is so surreal.

Let me make this clear:  
I'm not just another volunteer.

I never stop wondering  
Just what you think of me.

You will see the truth now  
More than ever, dear;  
At first, I was just another volunteer,  
But, no matter how little or much  
I want, I'm a servant, and as such,  
I want to be so much more, my dear.  
I want to be the top volunteer!  
I want to be the perfect soul  
That I want you to see.  
But, all I really want is to know  
What you think of me.  
I'm just another shattering soul  
Who wants to find her way back home.

Dyhanara Rios

# Life

Life is a series of adventures on the open sea;  
Smooth on a clear summer day,  
Rough and tough on nights so stormy.  
Though you might prefer to sail alone,  
You should always take a trip back home.  
Life is better conquered with friends;  
Should ships start sinking in a hurricane,  
Help them swim to shore, grateful for  
Each other, and each passing day.  
The best part of life is finding treasure –  
Memories are gold that we can hold  
In our hearts forever.

Dyhanara Rios

# Meadow Dream

As I sat down on a stone in the meadow,  
With only my thoughts and my shadow,  
I can only wonder how this came to be.  
As a million things run through my mind,  
I will use these minutes to relax, unwind,  
And comprehend all that surrounds me.

I sit here in this meadow grass,  
Watching clouds as they pass,  
And daydreaming, without a care,  
Of the times you and I have shared.

Suddenly, rain pours down from all around,  
Drowning out all of nature's sounds.  
We lost the bird's song and the cricket's chirps,  
And again, it sinks in – reality hurts.  
Then a rainbow shows through the thunder and rain,  
To remind me that pain will wash away  
As quickly as it came.

The sun comes out once again  
As the dark clouds pass.  
One day, you and I, my friend,  
Will return to this meadow grass  
Together.

Dyhanara Rios

# Meadow Return

('Sequel' poem to 'Meadow Dream')

We returned to our friendship meadow,  
And look; there's not much more it needs.  
You and I are the only gardeners,  
And I used benevolence for the first seeds.

We shan't leave our meadow  
Unplanted and bare;  
Let's sow it with kindness,  
And tend it with care.  
So many things in common  
We have so much to share,  
Like our thoughts on music and the arts:  
Some of the best came from Mozart.  
I love classical music, especially Baroque,  
As it graces the air with my senses it awoke.

Half my day lost, staring out the window.  
As I recollect times spent in our meadow.  
There was just one thing I wanted to know:  
What do you think of our little meadow?

Dyhanara Rios

# Metaphors Of Me (And All I Know)

I am tomorrow:

I know nothing of what I will do;

I know nothing of what will happen to you.

I am yesterday:

I know what you're going through;

I know what you're going to do.

I am today:

I know how to live in the moment;

I know just how fast time will fly.

I am a poem:

Sophisticated and speaking in rhyme,

And there's so much more to know if

You look between the lines.

Dyhanara Rios

# Midnight Blue Marker

The year's ending;  
We start to rewind.  
Look back at all the good times  
And all the tragic times.

Despite the worst of times,  
Will you hold the happy memories?

Remembering the worst of times;  
I can't believe they happened...  
I'm still so sick and saddened...

Nights and days get darker and darker and  
Color my heart with a midnight blue marker.

Feeling so blue...  
This midnight hue  
Has taken over my world.  
When will the ending be unfurled?

These have been the worst of times;  
Let me, make me, lie down and die.

Dyhanara Rios

# Mirror And Window

A poem is a pane of glass:  
For the poet,  
This glass is a mirror:  
Pure with poems from the heart,  
Cracked and shattered in fiction.  
But like every broken mirror,  
You can still see your reflection.

A poem is a pane of glass:  
For a reader,  
The glass is a simple window.  
This window looks into a maze -  
The labyrinth of a poet's heart.  
Staring in from the outside,  
The window is somewhat foggy,  
Which gives only a vague view  
Into the life of the poet.

All poets are humans on this Earth -  
Among many who inhabit  
This growing planet -  
And the windows they create  
Let sunlight shine into their lives;  
Perhaps to shed light on their fate.

Dyhanara Rios

# Modern Midnight Serenade

In this awkward evening hour  
The music flows in beat with my heart  
As I express the ache of being apart.  
My keyboard's on battery power;  
I'm going to play these ballads  
Until the sound hits your window and your head  
In a sonic moment of fear, pity, and dread.

When the window shatters,  
So confident, you'll approach the open air  
Wondering what, if anything, truly matters.

No, you're terrified as I see you standing there.

Pausing only for a second,  
I then continue my song.  
You look down from your tower  
Wondering how everything went wrong.

In a clever, passionate, and lyrical ruse  
I commit myself to serve as your eternal muse.

Dyhanara Rios

# Monday Mournings

The week was made of Mondays –  
Boring  
Annoying  
Mornings.

The week was made of fears –  
From all the pressure,  
And the stress,  
And the mourning.

The week was made of tears –  
For hours  
And hours,  
For days.

The week was made of Mondays –  
But Mondays  
Eventually go  
Away.

Dyhanara Rios

# Musical Mirror

Mimicking your every move;  
Soon we'll be in a rockin' groove  
We may never be exactly the same,  
But won't you at least play my game?

My heart has the rhythm now,  
And yours moves to the beat.  
We'll dance until the sun goes down;  
Having you here is simply sweet.

Here I am staring at this twisted mirror,  
But every day the glass becomes clearer.  
I see all of you staring back at me,  
Your beautiful soul is all I can see...

My heart's beating a tune;  
Your heart pulses in tempo  
So much fun is ending so soon.  
I don't wanna leave, don't wanna go.

Dyhanara Rios

# My Diamond Heart

The fire burns bright inside  
Unleashed with a steam of carbon dioxide  
When there's no hope for humanity  
Or a shred of my sanity.

I refuse to let anyone try  
To break me down to a pitiful cry;  
But I just can't help myself;  
Chasing lust,  
My heart crumbles to dust.

Through everything and anything,  
I still stand strong.  
I am cheerful, not fearful  
I'll write a poem or a song.  
Even when the sorrow gets old,  
My heart is made of diamond:  
Beautiful, unbreakable, and cold.

The fire inside  
Which burns with passion  
And yearns for revenge  
Shaped my once coal heart  
Into the cold, unbreakable beauty  
It is today.

Dyhanara Rios

# My Four Seasons

Where will I go?  
I really don't know.  
Hey, clouds are passing by,  
In that great turquoise sky.  
I'll stop to smell the flowers,  
To find myself there for hours.  
When I feel the spring breeze,  
All the world seems to freeze.

Where will they go?  
Summer vacation, I know!  
For a while, you said, you'll be gone,  
But I won't move on, above, or beyond.  
As the oceans of my mind reflect the sky,  
I think of the last time we said good-bye.

Where will we go?  
Its autumn, you know!  
The school bell will ring,  
And you're there, waiting for me.  
I'll forever be searching for peace -  
Where willows weep and shadows sleep.  
I always fear that I'll be lost here,  
But fear can erode, as I now know.

Where will you go?  
The snow is not that cold,  
Time is moving fast,  
And this weather won't last.  
These are the coldest days of them all,  
The rain might freeze, but snow won't fall.  
The branches of fall have begun to fray,  
And I'm looking forward to this holiday!  
Suddenly, the sky turned gray,  
And this winter day,  
Which had been bitter and chill,  
Grew soft and still.  
Too tired to care, I head for bed.  
Midnight approaches, the day is dead.

Wrapped around in a blanket so soft,  
It brings back memories,  
Of you and the seasons,  
That will never be lost.

Dyhanara Rios

# Never Enough

He who aims for perfection  
Usually goes the wrong direction.  
He then walks a road of frustration,  
Resentment, and degeneration.

He who always wanted to be right  
Let his morals fall out of sight.  
He never backs down from a fight,  
Pretending the truth with all his might.

He who did not like things rough  
Was in for a surprise.  
He wanted to show the world he was tough  
But always thought it was never enough.

He who wanted to be perfect  
Found that it was never worth it.  
He was so lost in his little lie  
That he forgot to appreciate life.

Dyhanara Rios

# No Last Goodbye

When this school year ends,  
A new journey will begin.  
Summer will be the break between  
What we are now and what we'll be.  
If our story were to end,  
Maybe we were never friends.  
But I will try my best to see  
You, maybe you could visit me.  
If only I could drive...

I'm going to a different school,  
But that should be cool with you.  
Email, text me, I don't care,  
Just show me that you care.

I sincerely hope our story won't end;  
"Goodbye" should only end a chapter.

Dyhanara Rios

# No Title

all my poems start the same  
seven syllables at first

the title takes longer to craft  
than the poem itself

lost capitals to seem artsy  
or maybe this is defeated

this hour only exists  
for worry and wonder  
though the Truth says not to

you would prefer I get some sleep  
so I can worry in daylight instead  
where poems are less profound  
and a hushed sunrise decides  
to turn the anxiety dial back to zero

all my poems end the same  
well isn't this the worst

Dyhanara Rios

# Not Halloween

Sure, I'm a battlefield monstrosity,  
I admit; I can be an awful atrocity,  
But I know better than to be that now.  
You should have no reason to fear me;  
Sometimes words come out wrong somehow.

The words I say and the poems I write  
Somehow manage to give you a fright.

Hey! This isn't Halloween!  
Well, everything you've read and seen  
Is just between you and me,  
But there isn't anything here  
That should give you reason to fear;  
These are just poems, my dear.

But if it would give you peace of mind,  
You can close your eyes,  
Leave our memories behind,  
And turn away from what you heard today.

Now close your eyes and say goodbye  
To everything you ever thought of me;  
To all the fears you've ever had of me.

Dyhanara Rios

# October Burns Burgundy

The feeling tearing through hearts  
And minds  
Quick and fleeting  
Like summer winds  
Before it's completely gone...  
October burns a shade  
Of burgundy  
Flaming with fuel from  
A sorrow-sudden sea  
Of gasoline

Softly spoken,  
Life's too short to commemorate  
The battles we win against  
Those we despise.  
This message was replied  
With screams and cries  
From sorrow-sudden spies -  
It's not:  
There's too little time  
To be pushed around  
And leave vindication unfound.

October burns burgundy  
With love and victory.

Dyhanara Rios

# Of Ridicule And Rumors

Well I'm glad I quit the choir,  
Now I'm free of all their evil;  
Or so I thought.

Today they weren't the problem, though;  
It was the conductor causing all the trouble.  
The choir girls finally found light in their hearts,  
But the instructor had gone insane.  
(Well, I'm glad I'm not there today!)

A close friend of mine is now a victim  
Of ridicule and rumors.  
But worst of all, they talk behind her back.  
This story has happened sometime before;  
That's right, this happened to me before.  
(History repeats itself again!)

I would try to tell her all that I've heard,  
But the last time I said anything,  
I was misunderstood  
And the rumors began.  
All I can do is wish the best of luck  
To my poor choir friend.

Dyhanara Rios

# Once Upon A Time

Once upon a time,  
I saw the music in your eyes,  
Now all I see  
Are vengeful dreams for demise.  
It took me way too long to realize  
You were wearing a mask of lies.

You were full of twisted dreams and demise  
You were full of awful, dirty, cruel, evil lies.

Once upon a time,  
You saw the music in my mind,  
Now you think it's  
Nothing but thoughts unkind.  
It took you way too long to find;  
You had looked into your own mind.

I was just like you,  
But you threw that aside.  
I was just like you,  
But you threw ME aside!

Once upon a time,  
I decided to say good-bye.  
I was done with you,  
(Like you were with me)  
And I left you behind,  
(Like you did to me)

Once upon a time,  
I looked in the mirror  
I saw your face,  
Much to my horror.  
It took us way too long to realize,  
It was me I first saw in your eyes.

Dyhanara Rios

# Our Kingdom Land

Feel the autumn breeze  
Flow from over oceans and seas.

This fairy tale will become real  
Preposterous as it may feel.

And I will take you by the hand  
As we walk the seaside sand.

Now if you will please,  
Get on your knees.

Before me you will kneel  
Or thy soul I shall steal.

I am the black heart queen  
Of my world at the age of fourteen.

And beside me you will stand  
As I rule this kingdom land.

Dyhanara Rios

# Paper Cuts

If you saw me five minutes ago,  
You'd have thought I was crazy,  
Ripping up paper like it was evil;  
Oh, but it was, just in my mind.  
The memories of what was on it,  
And how the choir used to sing it,  
This was tearing me apart,  
So I tore these papers apart.

So what was on those papers?  
Sheet music, are you surprised?  
And if I had to suffer a few paper cuts,  
Just to bring peace to my mind,  
Then I'd endure my whole hand in blood,  
Just to shred up my past and leave it behind.

If you saw me five minutes ago,  
You'd have thought I was crazy.  
But it would've been insane of me  
To not have thrown these shreds away.  
The truth is, though,  
I will never forget that year  
No matter how much I want to.

Dyhanara Rios

# Patience

There were crickets in the kitchen,  
Guitar strings started snapping again,  
A long awaited letter never came,  
And life has simply never been the same.

Though I've waited ever so patiently,  
You never take the leap to call my name.  
I will cradle the new beginnings gently,  
And life will simply never be the same.

Dyhanara Rios

# Perfectly Clear

The last school bell rang,  
"It's over! " kids sang,  
But I knew it wasn't,  
So I thought about it,  
Over and over and over.

Summer's back again,  
Let a memory begin.  
But the fall will return,  
So get ready to feel the burn.

The first school bell will ring.  
The choir might learn to sing,  
While you teach them of past mistakes,  
And how mine made you look good,  
While they realize you're really a fake,  
And your evil will become understood.

It will become perfectly clear  
That the choir's end is near.

Dyhanara Rios

# Pessimistic Sometimes

Sun shining...

I'm lying.

I can't stand this weather.

While the sun might shine each day,

Nothing's ever gonna get better;

Nothing's ever gonna be the same.

Sun shining...

I'm lying.

Lying to your face;

Lying on the ground

Face down

On my face.

(I just tripped on a shoelace) .

Sometimes, I can't stand this place.

Dyhanara Rios

# Polygraph

Today's society is shady;  
So who's wrong?  
So who's right?  
Well, who's just crazy?

I know a few people  
That are hard to believe.  
(I would tell you all about them, but,  
The stories are hard to conceive.)

Now I've learned to see through them,  
And when they make lies, big or small.  
They wear polygraphs on their faces;  
I think that will become their downfall.

Lies, spies, and private eyes:  
Three terrors that seem to rhyme.

Dyhanara Rios

# Rain

I saw a group of people stare at the rain:  
One boy remembered lessons he'd gained.

Another boy looked up at the silvery sky;  
Rain falling down his own cheeks,  
He spoke in his cry,  
"I've watched the storms in the past weeks;  
I feel like my spirit has passed away."

One girl cringed at the sight of the rain,  
And sighed, "It also reminds me of pain."

And the rest of them,  
Soulless,  
Un-abstractly say,  
"It's just weather all the same."

Dyhanara Rios

# Raining Today

Though I do not love you,  
I'll always be there for you.  
Though I'm nothing like you,  
I will always care for you.  
For all my actions that are kind,  
Many more are lost in vain.  
You say it's bright with sunshine,  
When it's pouring down with rain.  
How can you think I'm doing fine?  
Just look at me, I'm in pain!

Though you do not like me,  
I know you'll be there for me.  
Though you're nothing like me,  
While it's raining today, you'll care for me.  
For every moment I've forgiven you kindly,  
I feel that I have done it all for you in vain.  
You say that for you, the sun is always shining,  
But look, above me is a big, black cloud of rain.  
How can you say everything's gonna be fine?  
I'm losing every battle for nothing but pain.

Dyhanara Rios

# Roads Of Fate

Fate is ever-changing...  
We have the potential for rearranging.  
We travel down these concrete roads,  
But some are not set in stone.

June the fourth brought a fork in the road,  
And we were forced along separate paths.  
One day I hope to return home  
To visit you and my beautiful past.

Yes, you and I will meet again  
To continue on as the best of friends.  
Even if not in this life.  
We will meet again somewhere  
And talk and laugh without a care,  
Even if in a different space and time.

Dyhanara Rios

# Royalty

So fragile, like glass;  
So subtly smashed.  
Such a big mess...what a train wreck;  
The last collision had just been cleared.

Henceforth, fate commiserates me  
The queen of screwing up everything.

Forever bound to the crown  
Customized with my name.  
Forever bound to the crown  
Of gilded, glittering shame.  
Forever bound to the crown  
Throughout my eternal reign.  
Forever bound to the crown  
Throughout my infinite pain.

So fragile, like glass;  
Easily abashed.  
Such a big mess...what a train wreck;  
The last collision's impact's still seared.

Dyhanara Rios

# Run The World

The way you want to  
The fires below  
Cannot stop you

The heavens above  
Do not limit you  
(When you act in love)

The oceans and seas  
Do not cascade over me

The forests and deserts  
Are ours to burn and flood

We are who we are  
Taking charge is in our blood

Dyhanara Rios

# Sadsickness

I woke up this morning  
With a headache of epic proportions  
And I was weary of life  
More than ever before  
I wondered to myself  
if the pain would ever stop  
I wondered to myself  
if the hurt would ever stop

The sorrow is melting my bones  
And my fears are forcing these groans  
Every minute I'm sighing  
Is a minute I'm dying  
The emotions are spreading through my blood  
In a flash flood until my breathing is heavy with pain  
And the little sanity left in me knows I'm going insane

Dyhanara Rios

# Scream!

Some sort of scary story  
Haunting out of Halloween.  
Do you start hearing noises?  
Or shattered, screeching voices?  
This is the stuff that makes  
You  
Want  
To  
Scream.

Some sort of ghost tale  
To make you frightened and pale.  
Do you hear the noises?  
Those creepy, miserable voices?  
You're scared to death; all senses fail.  
This is the stuff that makes  
You  
Want  
To  
SCREAM!

Dyhanara Rios

# Sentimentalization

A whole character is built in the written word.  
It's you, but it's not you, because you're alive.  
But it becomes you,  
And you become it when you die.

Your familiar trademark soda pours out of fountains  
And doesn't cost a dollar anymore.

Your favorite fast food places line the streets  
Of your daily routine roads.

Your golden-tan van of a vehicle with the strawberry tree air freshener never  
breaks down;  
The licence plate number lasts longer than seven years.

Your favorite number, seven, is everywhere  
And every poem has it hidden somewhere.

The people writers fall in love with live forever.

And when the writer's dead or off in a distant land  
People are shaking their heads  
'Cause they don't understand  
What it feels like to have urges to hug you or hold your hand.

And every once in a while her heart is trembling  
When she remembers your smiles  
Or having trouble remembering.

But that's why she keeps on writing  
So she won't ever have to forget  
Or keep on fighting her thoughts  
Or die with any regret  
'Cause she would never take back  
Anything she's ever done  
For her passionfire sun.

Oh, this poem will never be finished until she's dead.  
Oh, sunshine, oh, sunshine, oh, sunshine...

She fell in love with you. You'll live forever.

Dyhanara Rios

# Sentimentalization Ii

A whole character is built in the written word.  
It's you, but it's not you, because you're alive.  
But it becomes you -  
Will you become it when you die?

Your familiar energy drink pours out of fountains  
And doesn't cost two and a half dollars anymore.

Your favorite fast food places line the streets  
Of your daily routine roads.

Your silver go-kart won't break down;  
I look for that license plate all over town.

Your favorite number is everywhere  
And every poem has it hidden somewhere.

The people whom writers grow close to live forever.

And when the writer's dead or off in a distant land  
People are shaking their heads  
'Cause they don't understand  
What it feels like to have urges to hug you or hold your hand.

And every once in a while my heart is trembling  
When I remember your smiles  
Or having trouble remembering.

But that's why I keep on writing  
So I won't ever have to forget  
Or keep on fighting my thoughts  
Or leave with any regret  
'Cause I would never take back  
Anything I've ever done  
For the spark that turned into my sun.

Dyhanara Rios

# Set Sail For Memories

How could I have known that you  
Could change my life forever?  
I set sail to sea, but I pulled off course  
When I thought I saw golden treasure.

I lost control, the ship crashed,  
And dear Lord, I'm sinking fast  
I guess this wasn't my lucky day.  
Oh, the water's much too shallow-  
I'm drowning in the shadows now  
As the ship goes down, down, down.

Alone and full of woe, it got so cold  
As I was searching the seas for gold.  
Will you hold my hand and rescue me?  
Will you save me from drowning in this sea?

You pulled me out of the sea somehow.  
I have no doubt; I love you now.

You saved me when I was almost lost at sea,  
And you shared endless amounts of treasure.  
(Our memories are gold – no, priceless to me,  
And talking with you is always a pleasure)  
How could I have known that you  
Could change my life forever?

Dyhanara Rios

# Shades Of Gray

I've decided that gray is a color  
That is better than any other.

Well, I thought about you the other day,  
And how a simple change led us astray.  
Colors of hope faded to gray  
In the wake of yesterday.

In the wake of what happened yesterday...

Now that you're gone,  
I'm left here to carry on.  
My colors of hope faded today,  
But to the prettiest shades of gray.

In the wind I hear our song  
With all the passing hours.  
In the wind it floats along  
With my spirit it devours.

Now that you're gone,  
I know I've got to hang on.  
My colors of faith faded today,  
But will soon rise again to shades of gray.

How can gray be a color of sadness?  
You're the one with colors of madness.  
When I think of gray, I'll always smile,  
Holding happiness in my arms for a while...

Very few people now see the colors in your eyes,  
They're just what you've painted to mask the lies.  
I thought about you the other day,  
And how I narrowly escaped your awful ways.

My cloud of fate is lined with the shiniest gray.  
And that's what I was thinking the other day.

Now that you're gone,

I'm strong and moving on.  
My colors of joy faded today,  
But to the happiest shades of gray.

Dyhanara Rios

# Silent, Scarring Secrets

I wish I could be sane for you;  
I want you to adopt to me, too.

I'm lost in the philosophy  
That no matter how hard I try,  
My efforts will vanquish  
On the day I die,  
Turning and yearning

In bed, alone; one day, maybe,  
I will hold you tight.  
Turning and yearning  
In bed, alone; one day, maybe,  
I won't cry, alone, through the night.

If not for The Secrets  
And my pride  
And dear Vanity,  
My will to be your bride,  
Perhaps I would have given  
My self-respect a chance  
I need you to give me a chance.

I chose the lies and I find me.  
I close my eyes and I see you.

Dyhanara Rios

# Slow Goodbye

This is my sad poetic attempt  
To slow down this last goodbye.

I knew today was coming;  
This is not a big surprise,  
But I guess I'm still not ready  
To say this last goodbye.

I don't know what to say or do  
Other than show this sad smile.  
Why don't you just stand here  
And let me hold you for a while?

Perhaps I've made things worse  
By reading you these words.  
(I can tell that you see my hell –  
You don't know what to say) .  
I don't want to let you go,  
But I know that I can't stay.

You should turn away now  
So you don't see me cry  
I know that you can't comfort me  
But I wish that you would try.

I knew today was coming;  
This is not a big surprise,  
But I can't help these eyes  
Or stop these tears as they rise.  
I knew today was coming;  
This is not a big surprise,  
But I guess I'm still not ready  
To say this last goodbye.

Dyhanara Rios

# Solarology

The sun's not even the biggest star  
But it means more than others by far  
It is hope and it is happiness  
The warmth is everything you are

And there's the photographic memories  
Of the plant that took the light in  
And the auditory anecdotes of melodies  
When the wind chimes would crash and cling  
And the nights I'd sing  
In my homemade little studio  
Pulling music, words, and sound effects together  
To let you know  
About this wonderful weather

I have it down to a science  
Studying the sun and all its symbolism

Dyhanara Rios

# Songbird A World From Home

In the world I live in,  
All that I assume or see  
Is not presented in full truth before me  
The world I want to live in  
Is sophisticated as can be;  
I get the acceptance I want  
For the humanities I divulge in;  
In that world is my famous twin.  
In that world every friend is a friend  
You'd never expect to see...  
Well, well, well, some expert on writing  
Can relax as we have tea and coffee  
As we sit amidst poetry in a bookstore  
And discuss our lives  
And poetry and literature and the weather and the future and the past and  
sewing and our families and  
(Gasping for breath) writing together and  
(Fearful of death) being friends forever.

Truths are knives.  
They tear through my heart  
Where I have kept these secret thoughts  
That tie my veins into discouraging knots.  
As a caged songbird, these are the secrets I sing;  
I wish to chirp and fly away to another world  
Where there is not a hint of chains on either wing.

Dyhanara Rios

# Starflower

A flower waves in the wind  
As I sit next to it in solitude.  
(Save for the stars of the night sky,  
Which are keeping me company  
With their magnificent magnitude) .

The air's a chilly thirty degrees.  
The flower and its leaves,  
Purple, yellow, and green,  
Are flowing in the breeze  
Like currents upon the seas.

Oh, the rain is here again,  
So I'll have to run inside,  
But a picture of this flower  
Will remain within my mind.  
And I can still watch it bloom  
During this, the midnight hour  
From atop my red-brick tower,  
(Yes, the window from my room) .

Dyhanara Rios

# Status Quo And After Summer

Emotionally unstable;  
I am currently unable  
To figure out who I am,  
Who you are,  
What we will be.

I'm out to deify  
Your soul; I can't deny  
This task I've undertaken.  
Because you were my savior  
When I felt I was forsaken  
By the entire world –  
My tragedy's ending had finally unfurled.

Who am I? And who are you?  
These answers are undetermined.  
Wondering if I'll stick by you?  
At the very least, I'm determined.

A more curious question:  
What will we be after summer?

Am I losing you already?  
That would be such a bummer...

What will the end of summer bring?  
(Besides the fall, or my downfall) .  
Without you, I'll grow numb;  
Your heart warmed me like the sun  
When these seasons grew cold.  
All I can do now is enjoy the spring  
With you and your heart of gold.

Dyhanara Rios

# Still Alive

I hate how you say my name  
Like it leaves you with shame.  
That's just one reason why  
You were the one they blamed  
As I walked out your door  
For the last time that day.

I walked out your door!  
My misery is no more.

I guess things didn't work out for us.  
Everyone blames you for my leaving,  
But do you think you're the one at fault?  
I know you well enough to know you don't.

I'm choosing my words wisely,  
And I'd love to hurt you, but,  
If I were to say something mean,  
Then what kind of person would I be?  
Someone just like you?  
A cruel and awful fool?

If looks could kill,  
Then you're trying to kill me  
But look into my eyes,  
Surprise, surprise, I'm still alive!

I'm gonna win the war this time!  
Do you think you can stop me?  
You and what army?  
I used to be your only soldier,  
Now I only give the cold shoulder.

I'm feeling better than I was before  
Ever since I walked out your door.

Dyhanara Rios

# Subservient Guardian

When you need a friend,  
I'll be your friend and guardian.

When your world is collapsing,  
I'll caress and steady your hand.  
When you think you're falling,  
I'll see to it that you safely land.

When you are feeling down and blue,  
I'll hold you for a moment or two.  
When you want to hear something true,  
I'll be here to say "I love you."

Dyhanara Rios

# Swoon

I cannot sleep  
When my mind is running  
Faster than my will to sleep  
And I'm far too busy weeping  
To find solace in simply sleeping

I cannot sleep  
When fears of the future  
And tears of the past  
Burden my head  
And I'm far too busy weeping  
To find solace in simply sleeping

I cannot sleep  
When hope for the future  
And letting go of the past  
Is more exciting than a dream  
In calm repose  
Only darkness flows

I cannot sleep  
When nightmares  
Instill shock and horror in me  
And I'm far too busy weeping  
To find solace in simply sleeping

Staring so long at the silver moon  
Insomnia loses and I simply swoon

Dyhanara Rios

# The Bus Stop?

Sitting on the cold concrete curb,  
I don't know if I'm awake yet.  
Is this all just a dream?  
My mind might be fooling me,  
But it's too early to care.

I look down at my watch;  
The hands point to six and three.  
My hair is in tangles all over me,  
But it's too early to care.

My carriage arrives in a flash  
Of public transportation purple.  
As flowers are graced with the presence of bees  
I ascend the steps with smiles facing me,  
But it's too early to care.  
Wherever you are is where I want to be,  
And I will meet you there.

Dyhanara Rios

# The Call That Never Came

I must be the one to blame  
For the call that never came.

I'm a failure at friendship  
For assuming it went both ways.  
I'm a failure to my family  
For assuming that I existed to them.

Our image is immortalized in a frame  
Sitting by the phone.  
I must be the one to blame  
For ending up so alone.

These days, betrayal's all the rage;  
What is wrong with this picture?  
I want to know what I'm doing wrong;  
I'll accept anyone's scripture.

No wonder I'm out of energy;  
I treat people like royalty  
But receive little in return -  
This silence is the ultimate burn.  
If a peasant sings a song,  
And no one is around,  
Will she ever be found?

Dyhanara Rios

# The Highway

Every day was fun, but I could barely breathe;  
Everything was simply taking the life from me.  
From now on, I'm not doing things your way,  
Because I quit and I'm taking the highway.

My time belongs to me, it's not meant for you.  
It's my life; these decisions are mine to choose.  
Trying to get things done was too much stress,  
So I put my foot down; I'm leaving for the best.

It's going to be a better day.  
I know things will turn out okay.  
Now that I have air to breathe,  
Everything is going fine with me.

I was in the spotlight; it was time to shine  
When I didn't let you take what was mine.  
You left me feeling worthless, feeling small,  
But my true friends helped me through it all.

I made the decision to leave;  
Defiance is all you see in me.  
It is hard to say goodbye,  
But even worse to live a lie.

Nothing to lose; so much to gain,  
So go ahead, bring on the rain!  
It will still be an awesome day,  
As I speed down the highway.

Dyhanara Rios

# The Indescribable Incident

The memories of us sitting in your office, alone,  
While the class watched through the window;  
I said I was innocent, but you didn't care.  
Your soft brown eyes were now filled with flames,  
And your melodious voice now rose with rage;  
What they heard is now said everywhere.

I know I'm not a bad person,  
So why am I sitting here?  
Because you refuse  
To believe the truth,  
And you live by those rumors now.  
I'll get rid of the lies somehow;  
I'll get rid of your spies somehow.

You walk out and slam the door,  
To let me drown in my own tears.  
You shooed the class off the floor,  
To fill them with a million fears.

There are barely any words  
To describe what occurred.  
Even as you read this,  
I still cannot believe it,  
How could I have let this happen?  
But it's not really my fault, right?

It is my fault, but it's yours, too, am I right?

None of this  
Could have been  
If it weren't my fault,  
If it weren't for your faults.

Dyhanara Rios

# The Lost Angel

One night I had a dream:  
I was standing in heaven,  
And I heard the angels cry,

"Where is our fellow angel?  
"Could she have fallen?  
"We shall search the entire sky! "

They searched our Earth and universe,  
Looking under every ocean and stone,  
And the clouds and stars up high.

One day (when I was awake) , I –  
I saw you sitting all alone,  
And I heard your heavenly sigh.

So if I return to that dream again,  
I'll tell those angels in heaven that  
I found an angel, and I didn't even try.

Dyhanara Rios

# The Stress

The stress is getting inside  
Caving in the walls of my mind.  
There's no place for me to hide –  
The stress has me in a bind.

But I'm not giving in –  
I feel the resistance within!  
Even if this is a battle I can't win,  
The stress will not make me give in.  
I am going to fight my own fight  
Despite my overwhelming fright  
Even if this is a battle I can't win,  
The stress will not make me give in

Though the pressure is hurting within...

The stress is getting inside  
Growing strong as time goes by.  
There's no reason to run and hide –  
I won't refuse to try (and win this fight) .

Even if this is a battle I can't win,  
I refuse to give in.

Though the pressure is hurting within...

I hate, I hate, no, I HATE this stress;  
Last-minute studying for this test...

Dyhanara Rios

# The Things I Would Say

Oh, the things I would say  
If I were with you today.  
My words would be nice,  
And not a single one unkind.

Although I would like to destroy your heart,  
Fate's not written that way; it's not my part.

Oh, the things I would say  
If you were to die today.  
Within a second, I'd be at your side,  
And my forgiveness you would find.

Although I wouldn't care this time,  
I'd be curious of what's in your mind.

Oh, the things I would say  
If I saw you today.  
I would make the smart call,  
And probably say nothing at all.

Although I have so much to tell you,  
I've realized that I'm done with you.

Oh, the things I would say  
If you talked to me today.  
I'd tell you how well life was,  
And how happy I am because,

Although I decided not to stay,  
I wouldn't have it any other way.

Dyhanara Rios

# The Trouble Clef

There are many stories and myths  
Regarding those with bad intentions.  
Of these, I only know one where  
Ultimately, everyone won.  
Because those involved swore to silence,  
Little is known about the truth.  
Except me; I will now tell you how she:

Crescendos all her little lies!  
Loses her mind and lets her voice rise!  
Evil had lasted  
Forever those nights.

She sings her heart out in the trouble clef;  
Hardly aware her higher notes spell death.  
Everyone knows she can seize what's left.

Still I feel bad for her, although  
I endured all those days of hell.  
Never had I seen such a damned soul!  
God help her; set her free from Satan's cage!  
She'll see the light before she steps on stage.

Dyhanara Rios

# The Underground

Have you heard of creatures  
From the Underground?  
They live the ways of evil,  
And to that life they're bound.

You must be a creature  
From the Underground.  
You're nothing but evil  
And when you make a sound,  
It calls all your spies out  
From the Underground.

We have to stop you before this begins;  
We have to stop this from starting again.  
We'll gather an army of real friends,  
We'll keep on fighting you until the end.

Let's fight the creatures  
From the Underground.  
They're nothing but evil,  
So we're taking them down.  
Destroy them before  
They take the town.  
We won't let you win  
This time around.

If by some chance  
We fail, and we lose,  
At least you saw  
The point we proved.

Dyhanara Rios

# "There's A Seat In Hell Saved For Me..."

"There's a seat in hell saved for me"

Where demons arise from the depths of the sea,  
Poison creatures spit from under every tree,  
Wing'd abominations fly ever so free,

And a deathly silence bruises each knee.

"There's a seat in hell saved for me, "  
I shrieked  
Upon contemplating how the future would be.

Dyhanara Rios

# They'Ve Chosen My Faith For Me

Screaming contentment in my mind,  
I was fine until my beliefs were under inspection.  
I could never follow the word of God to perfection;  
Now I have no choice.

The silence permeates my thoughts;  
Resignation has tied my veins into knots  
For the very last time.

Under pressure, I must fall back into His arms.  
Is it too late for a refresher  
On His wisdom, or His undying love?

I found I strayed from the path to God;  
Running down a river of shame  
As opposed to praying on the riverbank.

I'm willing to give faith a chance again.  
But I fear becoming a religious hypocrite  
Since I've seen so many before.  
I find it hard to trust them;  
I already have enough reasons  
Not to trust myself.

They've chosen my faith for me;  
At this I must abhor,  
But the day I detest to what I am told  
I will be seen as arrogant rather than bold.  
If I keep screaming commitment in my mind,  
Then eventually I will believe.

Dyhanara Rios

# This Is

This is who we are  
A Movement, a cause  
The People who will  
Put your perceptions to pause  
(one in many, many in one)  
A shimmer of Soulforce  
To shatter the silence  
Until the war is won

We are no accident!  
We are progress (human evolution)  
Billions of years and we  
Will push through many more  
This generation, our remaining  
Lifetimes for sure  
Or, tell me we were hand-crafted  
I believe you, I actually do  
Because we're so different  
In shape, mind, and hue  
Shouldn't we share a short,  
Sweet, and simple message  
That says diversity shouldn't interfere  
With equality?

Dream of the day when all can see  
Our hearts beat the same  
No matter whom we love  
Why must we fight?  
Why can't we just love?  
Dream of the day with  
No vultures, just doves

This is our every sentiment  
This is my involvement  
This is (a part of) who I am

Dyhanara Rios

## To Finish June

More than a week had passed  
Since my last email to you  
And still I received no reply  
Were you amused?  
Was I confused?  
Did it ever go through?  
Or were we through?

It's hard for either of us to understand  
I don't know if this is something I should say  
I can't stop myself from thinking about you everyday  
In the most innocent and compassionate way  
Call it obsession, or whatever, or love  
I simply cannot break the habits of  
For whom and what I pray

Dyhanara Rios

# Triton's Toy

Triton the Corgi-Chihuahua  
Wore out his squeaky sneaker finally  
No one thought it would happen  
Since he was such a small dog  
But I had a hunch, a feeling  
Because I knew those squeaker sneakers  
Like all the other sneaky squeaky toys  
Start to lose their shiny, silly squeak  
After a month, or even a week

Because I remember Sadie and Lexi  
The Labs of my old best friend  
Who squeaked their toys to no end  
So I, too, had worn out my time with them

So, I, too, would probably have to  
Be disposed of in the garbage  
Or maybe they kept the old toys in a shelf  
For the sake of reminiscing  
I doubt their memory of me would be that lucky

Because Lexi was the cream-colored,  
And Sadie was the brown beast  
I was not the least bit surprised  
When Triton's toy had worn out  
And I, too, had outlasted my time  
With the Labs and their younger owner  
To leave us both loners yet again

Dyhanara Rios

# Types Of Poetic Frustration

I tried to write a haiku for you  
But it grew too long  
Evolving into a song  
Wrapped around the sun and morning dewdrops  
And giving you props  
For making this the best part of my day  
In every little way

I tried to write you a sonnet  
But almost every line on it  
Fell short a few syllables  
Not to mention the intensity of end rhyme  
Whose rules I broke from time to time

Oh what a curse to have all these words  
Trapped in my head  
When putting them down on paper  
Has only led to poetic frustration

Oh, and I tried to write you a funny poem  
But I've got pretty dry humor

Dyhanara Rios

# Visible Light

Turn away now! This is the me  
I never wanted you to see.  
My true colors start to show;  
The ones I never wanted you to know.

I was bright but now I'm blue  
And other darker color hues  
Because I realize I hurt you  
When I never wanted to.

I'll never forgive myself for my display  
Of ugly, untrue colors that day.

Now I'm utterly shrouded in black  
Because of the words I can't take back.  
The colors in our vision fail all precision  
To display the entity that's taken over me.

Now you've seen my whole spectrum.

Dyhanara Rios

# Waiting For The Day

On what was supposed to be the final day,  
I heard your words that secretly told me  
That the war between us isn't over.  
And I will wait forever if I have to,  
Waiting just to tell you off,  
Or maybe just to blow you off,  
But I will be waiting,  
Waiting for the day.

On what was supposed to be a simple summer day,  
I sat on my bed with a paper and pencil,  
Writing down the words that I would say  
In retaliation someday,  
As I was waiting for the day.

I rehearsed in the mirror, and for a minute,  
I saw your face instead of mine.  
But I told myself, if we're so alike,  
How could you have been so unkind?  
So I threw away the paper,  
And broke the pencil in half.  
This is exactly what you wanted.  
But I won't let you have it.  
So I will just be waiting,  
Waiting for the day.

On what is supposed to be the first day,  
I will be finishing up old business,  
And as simple as it is,  
All I will do is ignore you,  
And as simple as it seems,  
It won't be that easy.  
But I have prepared my defenses,  
I will subtly end the war that day,  
So I am eagerly waiting,  
Waiting for the day.

Dyhanara Rios

# Walk Away

The weather changes often, but people don't.  
We try to rearrange them, but they just won't  
Give into transformation.  
If I take a step back, watch, and wait,  
I can see their hearts fill with hate  
As they give into their frustration.

An old friend wanted to pick a fight with me;  
So blinded by anger that she couldn't see  
That she was bound to lose.  
Burning bridges with every step she took,  
She turned back to me, gave one last look,  
As if she had a point to prove.

I waved goodbye and walked away.

She thought I had given up,  
And for her it wasn't enough.  
I knew she wanted a reaction.  
Then she started screaming,  
"Why'd you have to hurt me? "  
There was no point in reaction.

Yesterday is gone,  
But she's not willing to move on.

I made mistakes, but lessons I did learn:  
People age and people grow,  
But deep inside they'll always be the same,  
Whether kind, mean, or completely insane,  
And now I know.

Dyhanara Rios

# Water Under The Bridge

We've opened the bridge again  
To let the waters of these  
Troublesome times run under.  
The storms of screams have faded  
Away into the faintest thunder.

Sometimes I wonder;  
I wonder if you wonder  
How the status quo would be  
If you never, ever forgave me.

Well, it would just be so informal  
If we couldn't get back to normal.

Dyhanara Rios

# We'Re Losing Our Minds

We're losing it,  
I'm losing it,  
And you can feel it  
Burning in the air  
Like fire in your hair.  
It's scalding through your mind,  
And of all the ashes left behind,  
You remember the memories  
Of what you don't want to see;  
The few awful memories of me.

Dyhanara Rios

# Whispering About Me

I've been analyzing everything you've said;  
And for once, I put your web of lies in the open.  
At first, I helped you until I had no energy left,  
Then you acted as if I was just a burden.  
I got sick of it and I made my stand.  
I'm not perfect and you just don't understand!

You always wished that I was perfect,  
But trust me, it will never be worth it,  
We both know, that, I can never be.  
Now, look at your reflection;  
You, too, are imperfection,  
So don't say that it's only me.

I've been around this world and back for you,  
But I knew that someday I'd have to choose  
Between myself and the opportunity I was given  
Well, this is my life, and I think I feel like living.

Please don't say that you "understand all this; "  
No matter how well you aim, you miss.

I heard you whispering again down the hall  
Blaming me for a so-called downfall.  
I heard you talk about my supposed flaws  
Oh, the irony of it all...

You never did know how to whisper.

Dyhanara Rios

# White Noise Lullaby

It's nine in the evening,  
And it's raining outside;  
I don't hear any thunder.

The storm sounds like  
A broken television set,  
Or the evening news,  
Full of sorrow and blues,  
And I begin to wonder...

And it's raining outside –  
Nature's white noise lullaby.

Dyhanara Rios

# You

(Honorable Mention at Northside ISD's May Day Poetry Contest 2011 and 3rd Place (High School division) in Future Poets of Texas - San Antonio Poetry Fair 2011)

You – you will march up these cold, concrete stairs  
And accept a hundred some-odd green-with-envy glares  
With a smile and a turned cheek,  
Just trying to get through the week.  
You – you'll turn the volume up higher  
On your music player and drown out the world.  
You – you are the ruler of the city of your mind  
But what a pity you couldn't find a slayer of the solitude.

But when you looked,  
The sun peeked through the windows and the blinds  
And you were hooked to the notion that  
Someone answered your prayer for a better day.  
Someone answered your prayer;  
Now you can get through the day.

Who knows why the sun reminds you  
To have hope in everything  
Through the songs you sing  
And the poems you write  
And the one who inspired you  
Not to give up your fight.

Any fool can march up these cold, concrete stairs,  
But you – you're learning to do it in style with a smile.

Dyhanara Rios

# Your Smile

Money would be nice to have;  
I'd buy myself things that sparkle.  
But money can't buy everything;  
Well, it can't buy your smiling face,  
And wow...how it sparkles...

You see, all I need is your smile!

Perfection would be nice to have;  
I'd be at the top of the class,  
And have so many friends,  
But to be honest,  
I don't need anyone but you,  
And is it worth it to be perfect?  
I don't think it matters,

Because all I need is your smile.

And wouldn't it be nice  
To hang out for a moment?  
To talk about our lives,  
And just relax for a while?  
Money and perfection  
Just would not compare  
If you and I had time to spare,  
For us to share...  
Even if it's just a little while...

But all I need is your smile.

Dyhanara Rios