Poetry Prompt Journal



30 Days Of Poetry
Prompts

30 Day Poetry Prompt Journal

2017 Edition

Local Gems Press

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Table of Contents

Day 1: Rhyming Couplets	1
Day 2: Petrarchan Sonnet	3
Day 3: Indecision	5
Day 4: Faith	6
Day 5: Tanka	7
Day 6: Letter to Mother Nature	9
Day 7: Procrastination Poem	10
Day 8: Mini-Epic	11
Day 9: Cento Poem	12
Day 10: Overrated	13
Day 11: Style of Seuss	14
Day 12: Short Poem	15
Day 13: One Word Lines	16
Day 14 Same Word Starter	17
Day 15: Dream Imagery	18
Day 16: Prophecy Poem	19
Day 17: Limerick	20
Day 18: If You Could Ask God A Question?	21
Day 19: Chance Poem	22
Day 20: Rhyme Scheme	23
Day 21: Praise	25
Day 22: Your Own Elegy	26

Day 23: The Kindness of Strangers	27
Day 24: Look Before You Leap	28
Day 25: Generational Gap	29
Day 26: Scary Poem	30
Day 27: Repeating Line Poem	31
Day 28: Growing Pains	32
Day 29: Lost Relationship	33
Day 30: Hidden Treasure	34

Day 1: Rhyming Couplets

Write a poem comprised entirely of rhyming couplets.
A
A
В
В
С
C
so on and so forth. You can make them alternating patterns or all different rhymes so long as the poem is entirely made of couplets. Try to make the poem at least 10 lines and keep the rhyme scheme fresh.

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Day 2: Petrarchan Sonnet

Italian Sonnets, also known as Petrarchan Sonnets after the Italian poet Petrarch feature one octave or two quatrains followed by a sestet and is traditionally written in Iambic Pentameter. The octave forms a proposition or presents a problem or question which is then solved in the following sestet. Generally, the ninth line of the ninth line of the poem contains a volta which leads to the resolution of the problem presented in the previous eight lines.

The Italian sonnet follows a rhyme scheme of

A-

B-

B-

A-

A-

R-

R-

A

C-

D-

E-

C-

D-

E

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Day 3: Indecision

	extreme										
relat	tionship,	a s	pecific	sit	uation	a	time	it	was	near	ly
imp	ossible to	make	a deci	sion	betwe	en n	nultiple	ch	oices.		
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Write a poem about a time either you or someone you know

Day 4: Faith

Whether or not we are religious we all have some form o
faith. With every breathe we have faith there will be enough
oxygen for uswe have faith that we can leave our houses and
be safe. Write about faith from an unconventional point of view
What do you have faith in, in day to day life?
, and the great artists of the angles and

Day 5: Tanka

The Tanka, or "short poem," is one of the most well known and well-used forms of Japanese poetry. In the ninth and tenth centuries, this style of short poems dominated Japanese poetry styles and it was one of if not the most popular form of original Waka. *Kokinshu* is one of the earliest collections of tanka.

A Tanka's form is five lines.
5
7
5
7
7
31 syllables in total in the original Japanese.

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Day 6: Letter to Mother Nature

Write a poem in the form of a letterand make that letter to
Mother Nature. You can make the letter a thank you note for all
the things she provides. Maybe you can ask her a question, tell
her a story, or a memory. Write the letter from the point of view
as an offspring to a parent.

Day 7: Procrastination Poem

We've all put things off before (perhaps even writ	
poetry!) Write a poem about procrastination. It can be ab	out
procrastination itself or about a time you specifically w	ere
putting something off.	
	_
	_
	_
	_
	_
	_
	_
	_

Day 8: Mini-Epic

narrative story about a hero doing something heroic	. Epic
poems would go on for tens of thousands of lines of	verse.
Obviously, we don't have that long, so write a mini-e	epic of
around 100 lines telling a story of a heroic deed.	

The longest tradition in poetry is that of the epic-poem. The

Day 9: Cento Poem

A	cento	or "pa	tchwo	ork" po	em is	a poem	compris	ed o	of lines
from	other	poem	s. Tr	adition	ally th	e lines	are from	om	poems
writte	n by	other	poets	althou	igh so	metimes	they a	ire v	written
using	lines	from	the	poet's	other	poems	. Write	a	cento.
				-		-			

Day 10: Overrated

We've all been exposed to hypes and fads that just didn't
make any sense to us. Perhaps it was a new game or a song or a
pop star. Write a poem about something that you think is
overrated.

Day 11: Style of Seuss

Would you write a rhyming poem?

Would it be published in a tome?
We've all enjoyed the many works of Dr. Seuss. Write a poem in his style of writing.

Day 12: Short Poem

short and refined. Write a poem that is shortno more than 3			
lines longpreferably shorter. The fewer words the better. Pack			
in as much as you can with as little as possible.			
•			

Some of the most profound poems in history have been very

Day 13: One Word Lines

They say that simplicity is the hardest form of true genius
So let's keep a poem simple. Write a poem comprised of 1 word
lines. Make the poem at least 10 lines long.

Day 14 Same Word Starter

A	lso	a for	m of 1	repe	tition	poem.	Pick a	word y	you like	an
write	a j	oem	using	the	same	single	word	to star	t every l	ine

Day 15: Dream Imagery

We all h	ave dreams.	Dreams	sometimes	don't make	any
sensesomet	times they co	onfuse us,	other times	they intrigu	e us.
Sometimes b	-				
after we've w	oken. Write	a poem	describing	the imagery	ın a
dream.					

Day 16: Prophecy Poem

and a prophecy is that prophecies come true. Others would say the only difference is that a prediction is spoken, a prophecy is
written down. Write a poem that prophesizes something.

Some would say the only difference between a prediction

Day 17: Limerick

Sometin	nes poetry	has a	reputation	for being	g sad and
depressing	and then th	ere are f	funny poem	s like Lim	ericks. The
structure of	a Limerick	is relativ	vely simple:		
A					
A					
В					
В					
A					
Tradition	nally most I	Limerick	ks have 9 sy	llables per	· line, but
the rules on	this vary. V	Vrite a L	imerick.		
					

Day 18: If You Could Ask God A Question?

If you could ask God, or Allah, or Shiva, or the Universe itself a question, what would it be? Write a poem in the form of

one long question to the power or powers that be.

Day 19: Chance Poem

Take the numbers in your birthday and pick up a random						
book. Go to those page numbers and write down the first and						
last word on each of those pages. Write a poem that includes						
those words. Use those words as line starters or closers for an						
extra challenge.						

Day 20: Rhyme Scheme

Write a poem with the following rhyme scheme:

A

В

A

В

A

 \mathbf{C}

D

C

D

C

E

Е

E

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 -

Day 21: Praise

There is a lot of negative poetry out there complaining about
something, from family, to relationships to politics. Let's break
the pattern! Write a poem that praises something or someone.

Day 22: Your Own Elegy

We all wonder what people will say about us after we a
gone. Well here's the chance to write it yourself! Write a poe in the form of an elegy about yourself.

Day 23: The Kindness of Strangers

We might not always be able to depend on the kindness of

strangers, but most of us have experienced kindness in one form
or another from a person or people we don't know. Write about
a kindness you received from a stranger or strangers.

Day 24: Look Before You Leap

Everyone has heard the expression, but not everyone has
written a poem about it! Has there ever been a time that actio
before thought caused a calamity? Perhaps the opposite
perhaps thinking too much creates inaction? Write your take o
·
this.

Day 25: Generational Gap

don't get our kids, or our grandkids. We come from different
points of reference and different points of view. Write a poem
about the generational gap.

Sometimes we just don't get our parents. Sometimes we just

Day 26: Scary Poem

Once upon a midnight dreary When my mind was weak and weary Imagination drove me writing poems I never wrote before Write a spooky or scary poem. In a similar style of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven" if you like.

Day 27: Repeating Line Poem

Write a poem that consists of the same 3 lines over in different repetitious patterns. Something similar to the following pattern:

A			
A			
В			
A			
В			
В			
C			
A			
C			

Day 28: Growing Pains

Chan	ge can	be dif	ficult.	Growing	g up or	growi	ng ol	der	can be
hard.	Write	about	your	growing	pains.	They	can	be a	ancient
	ry, or v				•				

Day 29: Lost Relationship

We've all lost people, whether through natural causes, fights, or
organic distancing. Write about a relationship you no longer
haveit can be romantic, a family relationship, a friendship or
even a business relationship.
even a business relationship.

Day 30: Hidden Treasure

One person's trash is another person's treasure they	say. Not all
treasure is silver and gold they say. Write about a t	reasure you
have received or discoveredsomething not	necessarily
monetarily valuable but rich in history, culture	_
nostalgia, etc.	,
nostargia, etc.	

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Local Gems Poetry Press is a small Long Island based poetry press dedicated to spreading poetry through performance and the written word. Local Gems believes that poetry is the voice of the people, and as the sister organization of the Bards Initiative, believes that poetry can be used to make a difference.

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