

Wedding Poems

written in honor of
the marriage of

Husband
and
Wife

on Saturday, the second of August
two thousand eighteen
at six o'clock in the evening

Pinot Grigio Winery
Santa Rosa, California

composed in collaboration
between attending guests
and children,
and Scott Reid

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Children's Poems

Go Seek Her Out

*Go seek her out all courteously,
And say I come,
Wind of spices whose song is ever
Epithalamium.*

*O, hurry over the dark lands
And run upon the sea
For seas and lands shall not divide us
My love and me.*

*Now, wind, of your good courtesy
I pray you go,
And come into her little garden
And sing at her window;
Singing: The bridal wind is blowing
For Love is at his noon;
And soon will your true love be with you,
Soon, O soon.*

James Joyce

Wedding Song

Workmen lift high
The beams of the roof,
Hymenæus!

Like Ares from sky
Comes the groom to the bride,
Hymenæus!

Than men who must die
Stands he taller in pride,
Hymenæus!

by: Sappho (c. 610-570 B.C.)
translated by H. de Vere Stacpoole

Family Poems

Sonnet 30 (Fire And Ice)

*My love is like to ice, and I to fire:
how comes it then that this her cold so great
is not dissolv'd through my so hot desire,
but harder grows, the more I her entreat?*

*Or how comes it that my exceeding heat
is not delayed by her heart frozen cold,
but that I burn much more in boiling sweat,
and feel my flames augmented manifold?*

*What more miraculous thing may be told
that fire, which all thing melts, should harden ice:
and ice which is congealed with senseless cold,
should kindle fire by wonderful device?*

*Such is the pow'r of love in gentle mind
that it can alter all the course of kind.*

Edmund Spenser

Epithalamium

Do you remember when
in winter
we reached the island?
The sea raised toward us
a crown of cold.
On the walls the climbing vines
murmured letting
dark leaves fall
as we passed.
You too were a little leaf
that trembled on my chest.
Life's wind put you there.
At first I did not see you. I did not know
that you were walking with me,
until your roots
pierced my chest
joined the threads of my blood
spoke through my mouth
flourished with me.
Thus was your inadvertent presence
invisible leaf or branch
and suddenly my heart was filled with fruits and sounds
You occupied the house
that darkly awaited you
and then you lit the lamps...

Pablo Neruda

Guests' Poems

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Pablo Neruda

Poem for Kasa

Light painted all the acts
red that night
we flew to our country
of eight islands,
Kasa --
red, so red! my hips, my thighs,
all the way to my ears,
lucky we were
that the blue customs man
didn't see those bumps,
and luckier still,
that Yosano helped us
to the clinic the next morning.

Our visit to the steam bath
at the Ryokan in Unzen
helped to ease our travels,
the highest gift
embracing us like
curtains from the sky.

Your favorite comfort food,
tempura soba
with radish, and sliced green negi
I love to make
to delight you
when you come home
and I hear the jewel
of your voice.

Your ceramic vases,
your pots and lazy cups
line our window seat
like divine treasures
that shine with earth-toned
brightness from your kiln.

Poems rise now
from my hands
like white flocks
of cattle egret
adorned with plumes of light
which I offer you
my beloved.

Scott Reid