

DSA QUARTERLY LYRIC CONTEST

Lyricists! Here's your chance to shine. DSA is very excited about hosting a quarterly, ongoing contest for lyricists. The main prize is what we all aspire to -

RECOGNITION FOR OUR LYRICAL WORK!

1st place winning lyricists will receive a \$50 cash prize & Lyricist Software Compliments of Mary Dawson. 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners and lyrics will be published both in the DSA "Songwriters Notes" newsletter and the website. Entry fee is \$10 per lyric.

LYRIC CONTEST RULES

Deadline for Entries: September 13th

You must submit a separate entry form for EACH lyric you enter. Photocopy for additional forms. Read the following song contest rules carefully. Signing the entry form signifies that you have read and agreed to all contest rules.

1. The DSA Lyric Contest is open to any lyricist.
2. Judges and their families are not eligible to enter.
3. Enter as many lyrics as you like HOWEVER, you must send an entry form, fee, & lyrics TYPED for each entry (Sorry, no handwritten lyrics will be accepted.) EACH LYRIC CAN ONLY WIN FIRST PLACE ONE TIME. There are no categories, however, intended genre(s) for lyric submitted is suggested to guide judge's critique.
4. All entries must be received by no later than September 13th, 2005. DSA is not responsible for lost, damaged or misdirected entries.
5. Entry material WILL NOT BE RETURNED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. DO NOT SEND YOUR ONLY COPY OR S.A.S.E.
6. The decision of the judges is final!
7. Entrants agree that if their song is a winner of any prize in the contest, the sponsors and DSA will have the right to publicize the winners names and likeness, and reprint the winning lyrics in the DSA "Songwriters Notes" newsletter and/or website. By accepting the prize, winner releases DSA of any and all liability regarding prizes awarded. All warranties and performance of services promised are the sole responsibility of the sponsors providing such service.
8. Entrants retain all publishing and copyrights to their lyric(s).
9. Entries may not infringe upon any existing copyright or other rights of a third party. By signing the entry form, the entrant agrees to release DSA from any and all liability for copyright infringement of any entry submitted by entrant.
10. Lyrics of previous first prize winning songs of any DSA sponsored annual song or lyric contest are excluded.

Please direct inquiries and entries with check, or money order, VISA or MasterCard number w/Exp date to: Dallas Songwriters Association LYRIC CONTEST, c/o Sammons Center For the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd Box 20, Dallas, Texas 75219

Or enter online at <http://www.dallasongwriters.org/lyriccontest/>
Send inquiries by email to Sherrie Davis: sherriesong@verizon.net

3rd Place

Two Kinds Of Couples by Mike Parrish LaGrange, GA

Visit Website for lyrics & judge's critique

SPRING 2005 Semi Finalists

Welcome Home by Ed. Williams Dallas, TX

Only My Life by Lisa Apple Dallas, TX

Visit online for judges critiques

See http://www.dallasongwriters.org/dsa_lyric_contest.htm

WINNING LYRICS OF LYRIC CONTEST

DSA 2005 SPRING LYRIC CONTEST WINNERS

1st Place SOLITARY WALTZ © 2005 Glenda Perkins

Author's Note: "I want to dedicate this lyric to all the "Marys" out there who have had husbands who did not return from war. I wish for them to know that we appreciate their sacrifice and that because of it, we are free to write whatever we wish. I want them to know that they have not been forgotten". Glenda Perkins

V1 There's an old people's home On the outskirts of town
I happened to visit one day
Where I saw a lady Just dancing around
So happy, till they led her away
When I asked folks about her They'd just smile and look down
And with nothing but kindness, They'd say
"Aw, we just call her Mary Go Round
Cause she always dances that way
V2 She wears a locket in the shape of a heart
Its inscription, worn smooth by time
But she can still see it When she closes her eyes
It simply says "Mary, be mine"
Inside is the picture of a young soldier boy
His love fills his face with pure light
It brings back a melody
Haunting and sweet
That they danced to on that last night
Chorus: And Mary goes round and round
To music without any sound
Her feet move so lightly She spins and she halts
Dancing to the Solitary Waltz
V3 She still holds on to that old telegram
"Missing in action" it said
All she could feel as a very young bride
Was relief that it didn't say "dead"
He made her a promise
That he would return
She believed every word that he said
Now he's kept his promise
After all of these years
'Cause he's back in her heart and her head
Repeat chorus

Judges Critique

This is a very creative lyric in many dimensions. The visual images are captivating - the story is bittersweet. Kinda reminded me of the old lady at the beginning and end of the movie, Titanic. My only suggestion would be to get to the chorus sooner - perhaps after verse one (it would fit very well there). However, if you do that, 3 verses with 3 choruses may be a bit long. Consider making verse 3 into a bridge that contrasts from the rest of the song and then moves back once more into the chorus. Nice rhymes - good structure! You are a very good lyricist!

2nd Place WHERE ARE MY CAR KEYS? © 2004 Mike Parrish

She said to go, in Idaho
She said at least we tried
She needed space, it was her place
So I thought I'd take a ride
It wasn't far, I found a bar, a temporary friend
No clue on what to do or how it would end
With time to kill, I drank until
The day turned into night
I had my fill, but kept on still
I went down without a fight
In such a blur, I wasn't sure of anything but that
My fate's to leave this state and never look back
CHORUS: Where are my car keys, where's my car
Well I'm absolutely positive they might be at this bar
Her memory and my old Capri have driven me this far
Where are my car keys? where's my car?
V2 I had to try to drink 'em dry from Boise to Cheyenne
There is no worse a poor man's curse than to be without a plan
Hit every dive, I-25, from there to Santa Fe
Last call for alcohol, I'd call it a day
Repeat Chorus
BRIDGE I can't recall the day, the time
Of when I crossed the Texas line
Fort Worth's as good a place as I'll ever find
For now I think I'll settle here
It's all becoming much too clear
That I'll never, ever drive her out of my mind
Repeat Chorus

Judge's Critique

Cute song! Great rhyme scheme which you maintained throughout. I think the bridge could be stronger and possibly shorter. The bridge seemed a little anti-climatic after all the adventures in the verses. Good job! You are definitely a skilled songwriter!