



January Theme: There is NO Theme this month!

Just your individual contributions.

Doris Mady -- I'm going to use the following as an analogy and hope the shoe fits.

You've heard all about the latest Broadway hit, read all the reviews, know the stars, and *finally* are able to get tickets for it! Then you do all your homework on how to get to the theatre, where to dine afterwards, etc. Finally, you are in the hub-bub of it all. It's all that you thought it would be, and MORE!

Yet for some reason you:

- Tarry at the concession stand, missing most of the performance
- Don't read the PLAYBILL to see all the information about the cast or other things Broadway has to offer
- Maybe you bolt at the end of the performance or fail to applaud everyone's hard work
- Lastly you don't tell your friends how fabulous the show was.

Is this scenario any different than how you might be treating Greenwich Pen Women membership? Oft times I think this is the case. Pen Women can only stay vital when *you* are engaged.

We ALL have something to offer. You can attend events, volunteer, chip in, host an event at your house, create a video about what you've learned from Greenwich Pen Women, attend critiques, host a book discussion, launch a pop-up trip. You get the idea. *Participate.*

Let's see what worlds will open up for you, too! It only takes a bit of participation with this strong group of wonderful women to open your world to wondrous things.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank Libby Collins, Linda Hortick, Diane Morello Lee Paine, Adrienne Reedy, Catherine Stahl, and Deb Weir for their support this year. Their photo submissions, Expression themes, and monthly quotes have been as tremendous help to me. Thank you all.

Lee Paine --

"PEACE ON EARTH" by LEE PAINE

Presented at the GPW Poetry Group, 12.7.22.

Adapted for the Expressions Gallery, 12.19.22

Imagine a world
where all is at peace.

where children learn
to love others,

where children learn
to love others,
are respectful and kind,
like beloved brothers.

Imagine a world
where AK15s are used
only by the military
and not legally abused.

Imagine all race,
color and ethnicity,
is embraced and admired.
What glorious simplicity!

Imagine all poor
being healthfully fed
by their caring communities,
and to clinics led,

where all stricken persons
find guidance, loving care,
before their troubles worsen,
and they dip into despair.

If we can imagine it,
why can't we do it?
What would it take
to make our ideas fit

into a plan for peace?
Imagine if we all,
writers, artists, musicians,
answered a call

to speak out right now,
strongly and loudly,
advocating for world peace,
taking this stand proudly.

With our voices together,
over noise and dissent,
claim our vision for the future,
before our world is spent.

What do you think,
Fellow Pen Women and friends?
Will we start a movement
or give up in the end?



Margaret Esme Simon -- Have you noticed that some objects in your house become dear to you? You walk by them, maybe stop, and smile. Some of these I have painted and then the paintings become dear to me. Here is one I just finished: "Nutcracker".

February Theme: With the dissipation of COVID, how or do you, approach your work differently?



GUIDELINES --- Original artwork and photographs: Jpegs no larger than 500 kb. *Proofread* stories, essays and poems: 150 words *more or less*; photographs related to your story are permitted. Music: one page scores only, with text. Send your submission no later than the 20th of the month for the upcoming month. i.e., for January send Dec. 20th; February send Jan. 20th, etc. Email: dorismady42@gmail.com.

Let's hear from YOU!