

The MANA Sunset

April 2018 Issue

In This Issue:

A warm welcome to a (much-awaited) spring! In this issue of the MANA Sunset we include writing from Nathan Amoss, Katiana Cavric, Mackenzie Weaver, and Stephanie Lawrence. I hope you find these writings and my bit of advice helpful and inspiring. Enjoy the issue!



Call for Writers!

Robbie Dean Press, a textbook publisher for over 26 years, is asking for faculty authors to submit their work for publication! Robbie Dean Press donates a percentage of the sales of any text published by RDP to the school's educational or scholarship fund. If you would like more information with additional details, please call 734-973-9511!



Body Surfing at Coronado Beach Short Story

by Nathan Amoss

My family and I visited Coronado Beach in 2016. It frequently ranks as one of America's most beautiful beaches. Due to the mica deposits from the mountains of Mexico, as the waves wet the sand, the beach turns from a dusty sandy grain to what looks like freshly polished gold shimmering in the sun. This was truly a beautiful site. My family and I stood there for some time just admiring the beauty as the water rolled up onto the sand. Standing there watching the waves crash in, we were in awe. I have body surfed the waves in Lake Michigan before, but they were nothing compared to what we encountered that day. At first, I could ride a couple of waves with the body board. However, as the afternoon progressed, and the tide started to come in, the waves kept getting bigger. I have never seen waves so big and violent as I saw that day. There were several waves that were at least 10 feet high, and this is no fishing story. As the waves were building and cresting, it was amazing to feel their power. You would try to stand, but often, it was impossible. Several times I was knocked head over heels by the waves. I was like a tumble weed being tossed about in the wind. I must admit, that the first time it happened, it scared me; I felt so helpless being overcome by the force of the waves. Then, I could relax and enjoy the beauty in the waves, and marvel at their power and might. It is amazing to see God's creation at work and truly understand how small and powerless we are.

A Reflective Walk

As I walk among the headstones
A sea of white above bones
American flags, proudly they wave
Quiet tears fall softly that pain made
Something has left that nothing can replace
A warrior's death has won the race
My sadness just grows and grows
As I walk among the headstones

by Katiana Cavric



Poem of the Month

“Harlem”

What happens to a dream deferred?

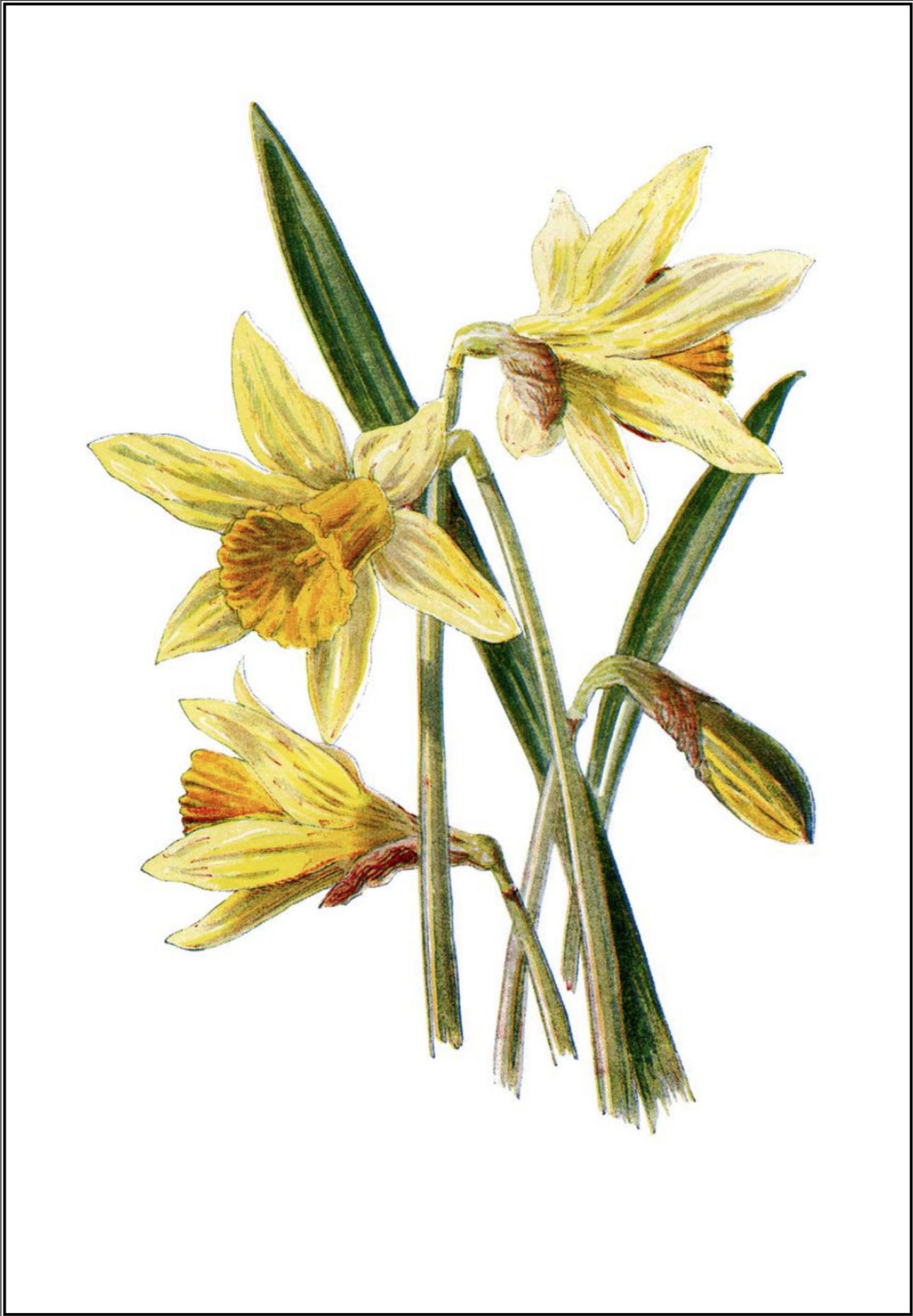
Does it dry up
like a raisin in the sun?
Or fester like a sore—
And then run?

Does it stink like rotten meat?
Or crust and sugar over—
like a syrupy sweet?

Maybe it just sags
like a heavy load.

Or does it explode?

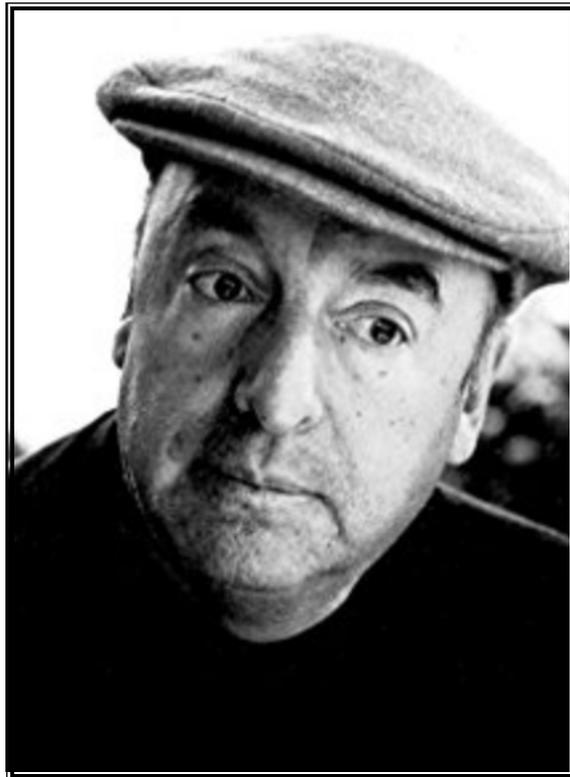
by Langston Hughes



Quote of the Month

“I want to do to you what spring does with the cherry trees”

Pablo Neruda



Ripple

The world did not arouse pleasure and gratification in his eyes.
He discovered sudden anxiety.
Beautiful things fear death.
Do you care?
Blind!
And now too late..
He was dead.
Silence.
The ripple ceased to be heard.
Shadows within echoed a sense of dread.
A command, his brains drawn out.

by Mackenzie Weaver

Boy Mom

Smudges on the window,
Mud on the floor.
Toothpaste in the sink,
Kids at the door.
Ball gloves and bats are the season's appeal,
While waiting to go to the baseball field.
Wresting and toys and all kinds of noise;
Never would I trade being the mother of boys!

by Stephanie Lawrence

Letter from the Editor

This spring sure is shaping up to be a beautiful one. While we're all doing our spring cleaning, pulling out the warmer weather clothing, and making our plans for summer, don't forget to tend to your writing just as carefully! I've compiled a list of topics to write about this spring for those of you who need some inspiration. Sometimes the hardest thing is sitting down and parceling out the time to write. Once you do that, this list of possible topics can help you get the creative juices flowing:

1. An impossible living situation (roommates from hell, a bedroom with a leaking ceiling, etc.,)

2. A first love (aww)

3. Your earliest memory of pain (ick)

4. A secret desire

5. A secret fear

I hope these writing prompt ideas spur some awesome writing for you! Once you write for about 10 minutes about one of these, it might be wise to set aside the writing and then return to it at a later date to fill in the details and revise. Best wishes and as always

Happy Writing!

