

# 2013MCC Creative Writing Contest

## PoetryCategory

SecondPlace: "Ghost Ship," by Lizeigh Enos

Tiny ships upon the water  
Their lights flickering upon the waves  
Ferrying their precious passengers  
Back to the afterlife...  
I stand upon the shore  
Looking out over the darkening sea  
At all those carefully constructed crafts  
With a heavy heart.

I'd hung the lit chochin  
Outside my door  
And visited your graves  
In the hopes you would return...

Without a glimpse  
Or whispered word  
For three days, it's now time  
To send you back to the world of spirits.

I set my toro nagashi upon the water  
Each one elegantly scripted with a name  
My heart hopes for one last sign  
That you were here...

I cannot help the tears that fall  
As I watch my paper vessels

Sail across the waves to a place I cannot reach.