

Tuck Everlasting
Chapters 20, 21 & 22 ~ Poetry Writing Opportunity

Name _____

Date _____

Many exciting things happen in chapters twenty through twenty-two. You will take one exciting, descriptive passage from these chapters and turn it into a **found poem**. Follow the following directions to write your poem.

1. Find a passage from these three chapters that has a lot of imagery, detail, dialogue, and/or excitement. The passage should be fairly long. (See example.)
2. Get a separate sheet of paper to use for making a list of words, phrases, and/or sentences while you carefully reread the passage you selected. As you are rereading, you should make a list of around seventy-five words that are meaningful in your opinion. Make sure you keep your list in the order that the words appear in your chosen passage. It will be easier for you to make changes if you double space your list.
3. Read back over your list. Are there any that you can cut? Mark out the words that are dull or do not add any feeling or emotion. Take out words, phrases, and/or sentences that do not "fit" with your poem.
4. Now, use your edited list to write a rough draft of your poem on a separate sheet of paper. You are allowed to make MINOR changes in words - capital letters, tenses, possessions, contractions, etc. Only make changes that are needed to make your poem flow smoothly.
5. You may add up to three words (ONLY three!) to the found poem. Only add a word if it is needed to make your poem flow better for a reader.
6. Decide on a title for your poem. Make sure your title matches the tone of your poem.
7. Now you are ready to write the final draft. Make sure you arrange the words so that they "look like a poem". Use line breaks. You may want to use one or two words in some lines to place focus on them.
8. Make sure at the bottom of your final draft you give the name of the book and the author from where the words in your poem came.
9. Share your poem with your class!

Tuck Everlasting
Found Poem Examples

Passage:

But Winnie did not sleep at all, not for a long, long time. The cushions of the sofa were remarkably lumpy and smelled like old newspapers; and the chair pad Mae had given her for a pillow was thin and hard, rough under her cheek. But far worse than this was the fact that she was still in her clothes, for she had firmly refused the offer of Mae's spare nightgown, with its seaming miles of faded cotton flannel. Only her nightgown would do, and the regular bedtime routine; without them, she was painfully lonely for home. Her joy on the road that morning had completely disappeared; the wide world shrank and her oldest fears rolled freely in her consciousness. It was unbelievable that she should be in this place; it was an outrage. But she was helpless to do anything about it, helpless to control it, and exhausted by the conversation in the rowboat.

(Page 68 - *Tuck Everlasting*)

Double-spaced list of lines / sentences from the passage:

Winnie did not sleep

cushions of the sofa were remarkably lumpy and smelled like old newspapers

the chair pad for a pillow was thin and hard, rough under her cheek.

worse than this was she was still in her clothes

had firmly refused the offer of Mae's spare nightgown,

with its seaming miles of faded cotton flannel.

Only her nightgown would do,

and the regular bedtime routine;

without them, she was painfully lonely for home.

Her joy on the road that morning had completely disappeared;

The wide world shrank

and her oldest fears rolled freely in her consciousness.

Unbelievable that she should be in this place;

it was an outrage.

She was helpless to do anything about it,

helpless to control it,

exhausted by the conversation in the rowboat.

Rough Draft of Poem

*Winnie did not sleep.
Cushions of the sofa were
remarkably lumpy and
smelled like old newspapers.
The chair pad pillow was thin and hard,
rough under her cheek.
Worse
she was still in her clothes - had
refused the spare nightgown,
with its miles of faded cotton flannel.
Only her nightgown would do,
and the regular bedtime routine.
She was painfully lonely for home.
Her joy had completely disappeared;
The wide world shrank.
her oldest fears
rolled freely in her consciousness.
Unbelievable that she should be in this place;
it was an outrage.
She was helpless to do anything
helpless to control it,
exhausted.*

Happiness Lost

*She was painfully lonely.
Her joy had completely disappeared;
The wide world shrank.
Her oldest fears
rolled freely in her consciousness.
Unbelievable that she should be in
THIS place;
It was an outrage!
She was helpless to do anything!
Helpless to control it!
Exhausted!*

T.S.
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Tuck Everlasting - Natalie Babbitt