

DONATED WORDS POEMS & PROJECTS
- QUOTES FROM PARTICIPANTS -

I am so pleased to present blurbs and quotes from many individuals who have shared their positive experiences about partaking in collaborative poems and projects with me since 2018. Whether they donated a word or other element to a poem I wrote and shared on Twitter or Instagram, [THIS ASSEMBLY](#) or [TEAMWORDK](#) (or some combination of all or many of these!), their perspective is appreciated and so valuable. Some have even tried writing their own poems that infuse donated words!

There is a lot of anticipation, connection and excitement in sourcing and building these types of poems! If you'd like me to add a short quote or slightly longer blurb to this document about your own encounters with any of my donated words projects, [CONTACT ME!](#) Never took part but are an enthusiastic reader of these projects? I'd love to hear from you, too!

I will be using this supplemental document as a living document. I would like to add more quotes along the way as there will likely be future projects with a similar community-based writing feel!

I will also be utilizing these quotes for promotion of projects of this nature.

Thanks so much for your support and inspiring me to dig a little further into my own writing and nourishing so many great connections along the way!

Take good care,
K Weber

K Weber's collaborative projects are a breath of fresh air in a social landscape that often promotes individuality rather than collaboration. What makes her poems so special is her ability to take words, and therefore connotations and meanings, from so many people and turn them into something uniquely her; K's essence never gets lost in the process. Selfishly, too, it's fun to see a word you've donated used in a way you wouldn't have thought to use it. What these projects ultimately cultivate is not only inspiration but also proof that brilliant things can happen when we work together.

PRESTON SMITH

loves to write, bake, and pretend he's in a fairy tale at any given time. He's the author of *Red Rover, Red Lover*.

psmwrites.com

In this project, K Weber has captured the best part of the poetry community; the ways in which we can come together and work collaboratively to create something so much more than the sum of its parts. This is a wonderful idea, something sorely needed in these times, and it's a delight to be a part of it.

AMANDA MCLEOD,

author of *Animal Behaviour* (2020, Chaffinch Press) & *Heartbreak Autopsy* (2021, Animal Heart Press)

amandamcleodwrites.com

Collaborating on these donated word projects has been a wonderful way to passively connect and create with so many more writers than I could have ever encountered on my own! I've donated words several times now and with every iteration I encounter so many new, kind souls and wonderful writers.

SIERRA RITTUE,

writer, librarian, and doodler. Find doodles on Instagram @weedqueendoodles and words and other links at batheandhunt.com

I've had the pleasure of taking part in two of K's donated poem projects, and I've always been so amazed by what she can do to transform this seemingly random collection of words into something cohesive and inspiring. Writing poetry can often be a solitary thing, so it's easy to forget that words have the power to bring us together. It's a sort of magic, tossing a word or two to K, and then waiting for the big, surprising & satisfying reveal.

KIM MANNIX

writes poems, dark stories & procrastinate-bakes at her home in Sherwood Park, Alberta
makesmesodigress.com

One of poetry's greatest joys, for me, is sharing space in a conversation that goes beyond the individual to something bigger; K Weber's collaborative poems make this experience concrete in the most wonderful way, by joyfully syncretizing donated words into a whole that bears the marks of its community of creators. I love the spirit of these collaborations and am so grateful to be a contributor!

TOM SNARSKY,

mathematics teacher & author of *Light-Up Swan* (2021, Ornithopter Press)
ornithopterpress.com/store/p12/LIGHT-UP_SWAN.html

Contributing to these kinds of collaborations is like bringing a bottle of cheap wine—or an uncooked head of broccoli—to a dinner party and being fed a huge, delicious, gourmet meal. What I mean to say is that the creative return on investment is high. To put it another way, K's donated word poems are a great example of a situation where a sum of the whole is far greater than the parts.

MELINDA FARRAR

usually doesn't remember what she has forgotten until she locks the front door and is halfway to her car. She and Gary have recorded your favorite Xmas song:

garyandmelinda.bandcamp.com/album/hanging-lights-rewired

This was such a fun, interesting, and engaging process from start to finish. How all of these words are used in the same poems blows me away every single time.

ASHLEY ELIZABETH,

author of *you were supposed to be a friend* (2020, Nightingale & Sparrow Press)

nightingaleandsparrow.com/you-were-supposed-to-be-a-friend-by-a-shley-elizabeth

What was fun about this was seeing how disparate words from numerous individuals could be woven together to make poetry. Not something I think I could ever do! But it was exciting to feel the creative energy.

KYLA HOUBOLT,

author of *Tuned* (2020, CCCP Chapbooks)

kylahoubolt.com

It's been interesting to see what words are sitting on the tip of my tongue — or words that have an appeal to me — be prompted and written into something new... to see how a meaning can change how a word can help turn a sentence into poetry!

TIFFANY SCIACCLA,

poet and thrift store high-scorer with words published in amazing spaces like *Barren Magazine* & *Luna Luna Magazine*

barrenmagazine.com/come-september/

i love the teamwordk poems! they are so well thought of and creatively put together. there is no way possible that i could write poems with such different words!

MILLIE HUDSON,

age 10

(K would love for her to try writing one!!! she's been a great addition to our donated words poetry family!!!)

K Weber is inspiring. These collaborations are reminders of the positive place the poetry community can be. When she does a call-out for contributions, I always find myself eager to see the results.

MARISA SILVA-DUNBAR,

author of *#becky* (2019, Maverick Duck Press)

marisasilvadunbar.com

It is so inspiring to see K's collaborative projects developing; she creates such a wonderful community of poems. I always enjoy discovering where my donated word resides.

MARCELLE NEWBOLD,

Poetry Editor at *Nightingale & Sparrow*

poems.sketch31.co.uk/

I was honored to be able to participate in TEAMWORDK [and THIS ASSEMBLY] and see how my contributions were used. As far as original concepts and ideas go, this has been one of the most unique I've seen in awhile!

NORB AIKIN,
author of *Mutants* (2020)
norbaikin.com/blog

Pieces of people unknown to each other merge triumphant in tapestries woven by deft fingers!

JENNA MIA,
creatively writing on instagram as @getherwordsout (K's first internet penpal! circa 1995!)

In a world where so many people are isolated from each other, it's heart-warming to see people connected by the words they share.

ROBERT LEE BREWER,
Senior Editor, *Writer's Digest*
writersdigest.com/write-better-poetry

I've enjoyed watching words come alive with the collective collaboration. I can only hope to be word-worthy.

STEPHANIE BENTON,
healthcare-workin' metal mama (who is more than word-worthy!)

Every word turned to words turned to poems has been such an awe-inspiring and collectively uniting experience for me, and no doubt for others!

NADIA GERASSIMENKO,
Founder and Editor-in-Chief of *Moonchild Magazine*, a sporadic dreamy, experiential online publication
tepidautumn.net/

I have known Kristi for nearly 35 years and it has been a joy to see her creativity blossom from a wee fifth-grader to the incredibly talented wordsmith you see today. It warms my heart that my own fifth-grader emulates Kristi in creating poems. So Kristi isn't just gifting us with TEAMWORDK, she is providing the world with another poet.

MISTY HUDSON,
keeper of lost memories who marched the big, bass drum on our pirate ship & reigned over an entire hometown for a while

This is an innovative project that is reminiscent of the surrealist exquisite corpse. It encourages cooperative participation from an exciting spectrum of creatives that leads to surprising results."

KARI FLICKINGER,
author of *The Gull and the Bell Tower* (2020, Femme Salvé Books)
kariflickinger.com

You have been quested to delve into your personal dragon's hoard of beloved words, to offer one up and then to await its return spun into the shimmering weave of a new magick.

PATRICK WHITED,

unassuming sage encouraging others to gain great music experience and level-up their interactions in nature

It's fascinating seeing how all of the donated words are compiled into a cohesive poem. I like to try to pick unusual words to make it more challenging.

CASSIE COLETTA

Mom. Insomniac. Writer of words that get lost on their way to paper.

It's as easy as can be. K asked for a word (of which I have plenty right at the tip of my mind) so I sent one. Then the best kind of magic happens: poetry and community all at once.

CORY FUNK,

photographe/writer/music obsessive whose work has appeared in *Memoir Mixtapes* & at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts
funkomatic.wordpress.com

K Weber was an absolute joy to work with, and she's found a really cool, relatively unexplored niche with her poetry. It's so fun to be a part of her work! 10/10 would do it again.

RACHEL TANNER,

author of *Heal My Way Home* (2020, Nightingale & Sparrow Press)

nightingaleandsparrow.com/heal-my-way-home

It's a fun and clever exercise I always look forward to. I'm always happy when asked to contribute whatever odd and random words may be on my mind that particular day.

JON BOTTORFF,

owner of Black Dog Printing (Richmond, Indiana)

blackdogprinting.org/

I love the creativity and collaborative nature of these poems. Writing can be really solitary, and it's amazing to see something come to life that so many people have been part of.

ELODIE BARNES,

writer of short things, some of which other people have liked enough to publish!

elodierosebarnes.weebly.com