

“Honoring Three Women In My Life”

By Abe Henselyn

MOM

From my birth to manhood
She would always be there
Unchanged in my memory
As in the few photographs
That I managed to save.

A soothing presence,
A source of comfort.
Her beautiful, brown hair
Cascading down to her waist
When not braided into a bun.

She performed miracles daily
Turning pennies into meals,
Making a castle from a hovel,
Raising her sons to be proud
And caring, as she was, herself.

Even my final view of her,
Leaving home for the last time
Shows a quiet, resigned woman,
Concerned with husband and son
While her goodbye remained silent.

WASTED LOVE

Where no trees, flowers nor grass could grow;
Still, like a weed through rocks, love did appear.
The furtive meetings, the stolen moments of peace
Washed away their fears of a future without hope.

The days were filled with the task of recording those

Who'd soon pass through the camp to certain doom.
They refused to believe in such fate for themselves,
Making plans for the life they saw ahead, brightly.

Then the unexpected split, the undesired parting
That promised one life, thumbs down for the other.

There would be no reunion, no happy ending
To the story of two souls, thrown together by fate
And just as randomly torn apart, a wasted love
That held no promise, a sad memory for just one.

RIA

A meeting, arranged on a summer's day
First brought us together, still hurting.
Too short a time after the horrors of war,
Doubting that happiness could be ahead.

She was a lovely sight, a welcome vision,
Perhaps a friend in a friendless world.
No other plans were made that first day
Than meeting again to share some talk.

Left with just one parent between us,
On our own to find our way in life.
We gingerly connected, formed a bond
Perhaps leading to a future, joined.

Our growing up delayed by four years,
Unprepared for the bond of marriage.
Not quite accepting each other's whims,
While life went from rags to riches.

Our union was blessed with two sons
Amidst much strife and conciliation.
Still, growing singly and also together
Until peace and love finally reigned.

