



HOMEWORDS: A Project of the Poet Laureate of Kansas

By Wyatt Townley

This weekly poetry column explores the notion of “home” in expanding contexts—from the

mobile home of the **body**, to the **house** it inhabits, to the **land** that holds the house, to the **sky** that houses it all. *HomeWords* addresses big themes with a tiny poem: the **American Cinquain**. Its 5 lines contain—in order—2, 4, 6, 8, and 2 syllables.

This week’s topic is **home as body**. Our poets explore its ways and its means. **Maril Crabtree** of Mission is a “passion-fed poet” whose third chapbook, *Tying the Light*, was recently published. I like the contrast between the poet’s straightforward tone and the poem’s exuberant subject.

*Passion
brings me closer
to my body. After
all, it’s what got me here in the
first place.*

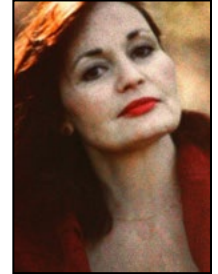
Ronda Miller is a life coach in Lawrence whose second book of poetry, *MoonStain*, and a memoir will be out this year. Here she contrasts her inner and outer experience—and finds a gap.

*my skin
my hair and eyes
my youthful ways remain
why does no one recognize me
I’ve aged*

Poets and poets-to-be of all ages from across the state are invited to submit to

HomeWords. For guidelines, visit www.kansashumanities.org.

The Kansas Humanities Council is a nonprofit organization that supports community-based cultural programs and encourages Kansans to engage in the civic and cultural life of their communities.



Poets Maril Crabtree, Mission, and Ronda Miller, Lawrence