



HOMEWORDS: A Project of the Poet Laureate of Kansas

By Wyatt Townley

This week our poets navigate HOME AS SKY, using the American Cinquain to steer by: 22 syllables arranged in five lines this way: 2, 4, 6, 8, 2.

Born in Concordia, **Greg Bryant** lives in Robinson with his wife, Susan, and teaches writing and literature at Highland Community College. The poem turns on its unusual verb, then opens into a new idea.

*All day
the Western and
the Eastern Meadowlarks
flute far across the fields of our
shared home.*

Tina Hacker of Leawood is past Co-president of The Writers Place with a new book of poems, *Listening to Night Whistles*. Her cinquain’s music comes from its strong rhythms, linked vowels, and all those b’s. I can’t help but think of John Steuart Curry’s tornado painting in the Statehouse, “Tragic Prelude.”

*John Brown’s
legacy of
freedom, blurred by bloodshed,
burnished by conviction and hope,
endures.*

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.



Poet Greg Bryant,
Robinson



Poet Tina Hacker,
Leawood