



# HOMEWORDS: A Project of the Poet Laureate of Kansas

By Wyatt Townley

This week our topic is **home as land**. We'll explore the Kansas landscape using the American Cinquain—just 5

lines with 22 syllables, divided up this way: 2, 4, 6, 8, 2.

**Joan Weaver** is the director of the (award winning!) Kinsley Library and has lived 25 years on thirty acres in the sand hills south of Lewis, Kansas. After we batted the spelling of “spore” back and forth a couple times, she decided to replace it with “scat.” Either way, the energy of her poem throws off sparks.

*July!  
The coyote scat  
is pink! Time to gather  
plums soaked in the light of last night's  
sunset.*

**Annie Newcomer** lives in Prairie Village with her husband and loves triathlons, chess, writing, and “searching for poetic connections in her daily life.” Here she explores home as two people she loves, the body her landscape.

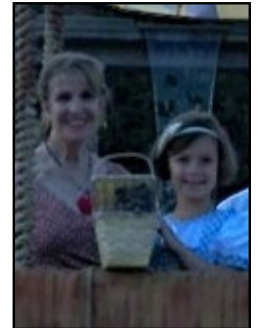
*Two Homes:  
one far away,  
where mother rests her head,  
the second, where I place my head,  
by you.*

Poets and poets-to-be of all ages from across the state are invited to submit to *HomeWords*. For guidelines, visit [www.kansashumanities.org](http://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.



Joan Weaver, Lewis



Annie Newcomer and friend Claire, Prairie Village