



HOMEWORDS: A Project of the Poet Laureate of Kansas

By Wyatt Townley

This week's theme is HOME AS HOUSE. Our poets explore "house" through the window of the **American**

Cinquain—22 syllables divided among five lines in this order: 2, 4, 6, 8, and back to 2.

David Lee Garrison lives part of the year in Prairie Village, and part in Dayton, Ohio. His most recent book of poems is *Playing Bach in the DC Metro* (Browser Books). The poem's surreal tone is mirrored in its final ticking spondee.

Dream

*A knock
on the door of
dream's dark church, or the thud
of a bird against a window:
night clock.*

Heather Hoffman of Prairie Village is a 6th grade English teacher who says she "surfs the wave of barely controlled insanity that comes with working alongside tweenagers." She has our admiration and sympathy.

One Parent's Plight

*Ambush.
Pluck these false fruits:
socks and unders, peppered
as camouflage for sharp Legos.
Snake bite!*

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 David Lee Garrison of Prairie Village



Poet Heather Hoffman of Prairie Village