

## Wilderness House Literary Review 5/1

*James Piatt*

### **For Poets Words Live Forever**

I was weary of constant heartaches  
In the swarming schools of decay

I was disillusioned by dark cruelty  
And released sad tears each day

I longed for my soothing river  
Where I could write hard cares away

For a poet's words live forever  
And spoiler's words die each day

I was sick of the strident bragging  
Of boasting that was all cliché

Of scholarly faces creased with cleverness  
As throngs of hapless students went astray

>From restless dreams of frustration  
I would escape to rivers to play

For poets words live forever  
And spoiler's words die each day

I felt a constant poignant pity  
For burdens the children display

Twas little pleasing in the school  
Only sad anxious tears of dismay

As personal merits were neglected  
And minds were stifled with cruel betray

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As teacher's hearts filled with defiance  
My poet's heart did bleed away

>From boorish cold upheavals  
I would flutter to the river's bay

By soft pastures gentle maze  
I would dream of feelings gay

And be soothed by soft reverie  
And rhythmic sounds of play

For poet's words live forever  
And spoiler's words die each day