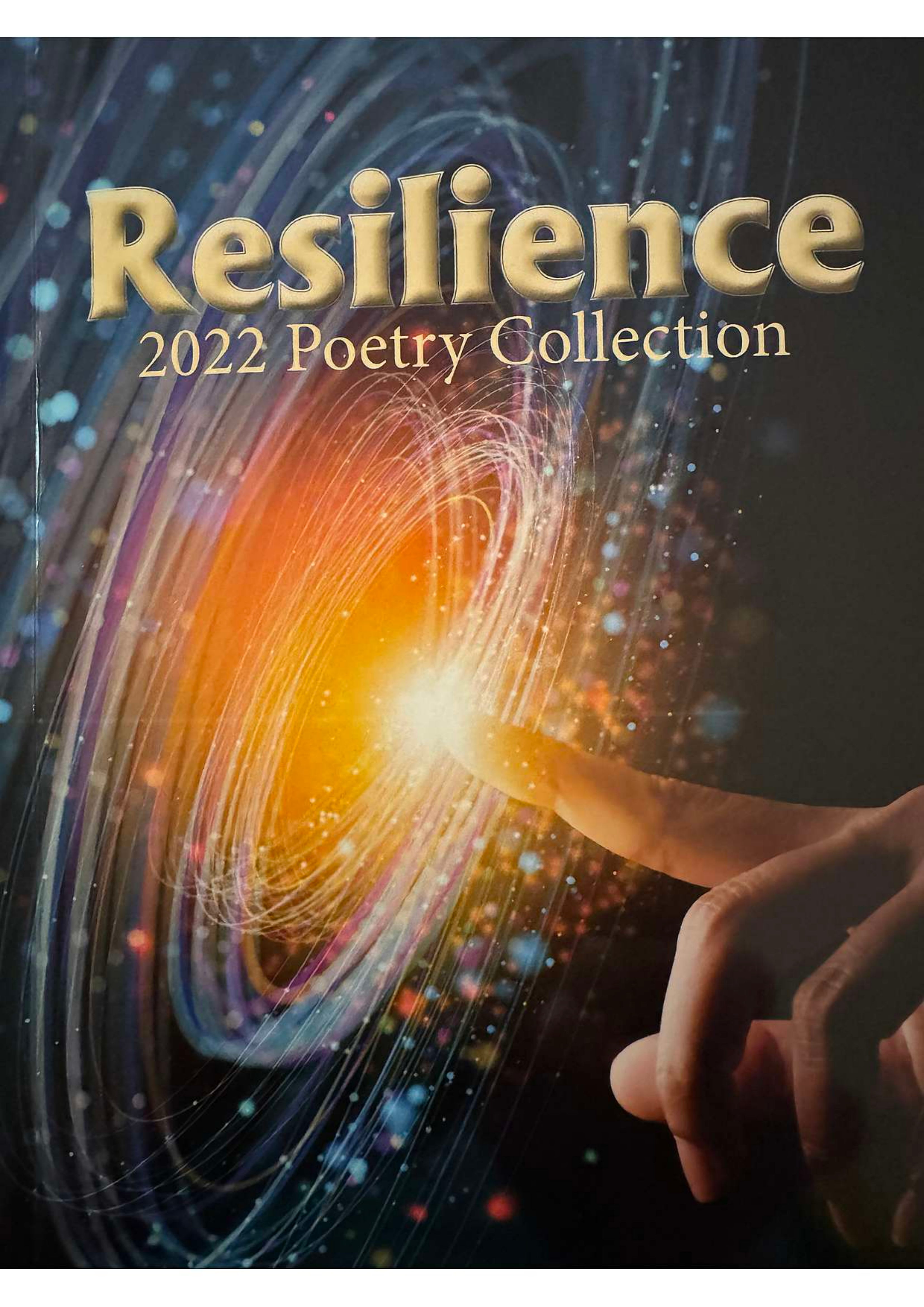


Resilience

2022 Poetry Collection



Resilience represents our student authors as accurately as possible.
Every effort has been made to print each poem
as it was submitted with minimal editing
of spelling, grammar, and punctuation.
All submissions have been formatted to this compilation.

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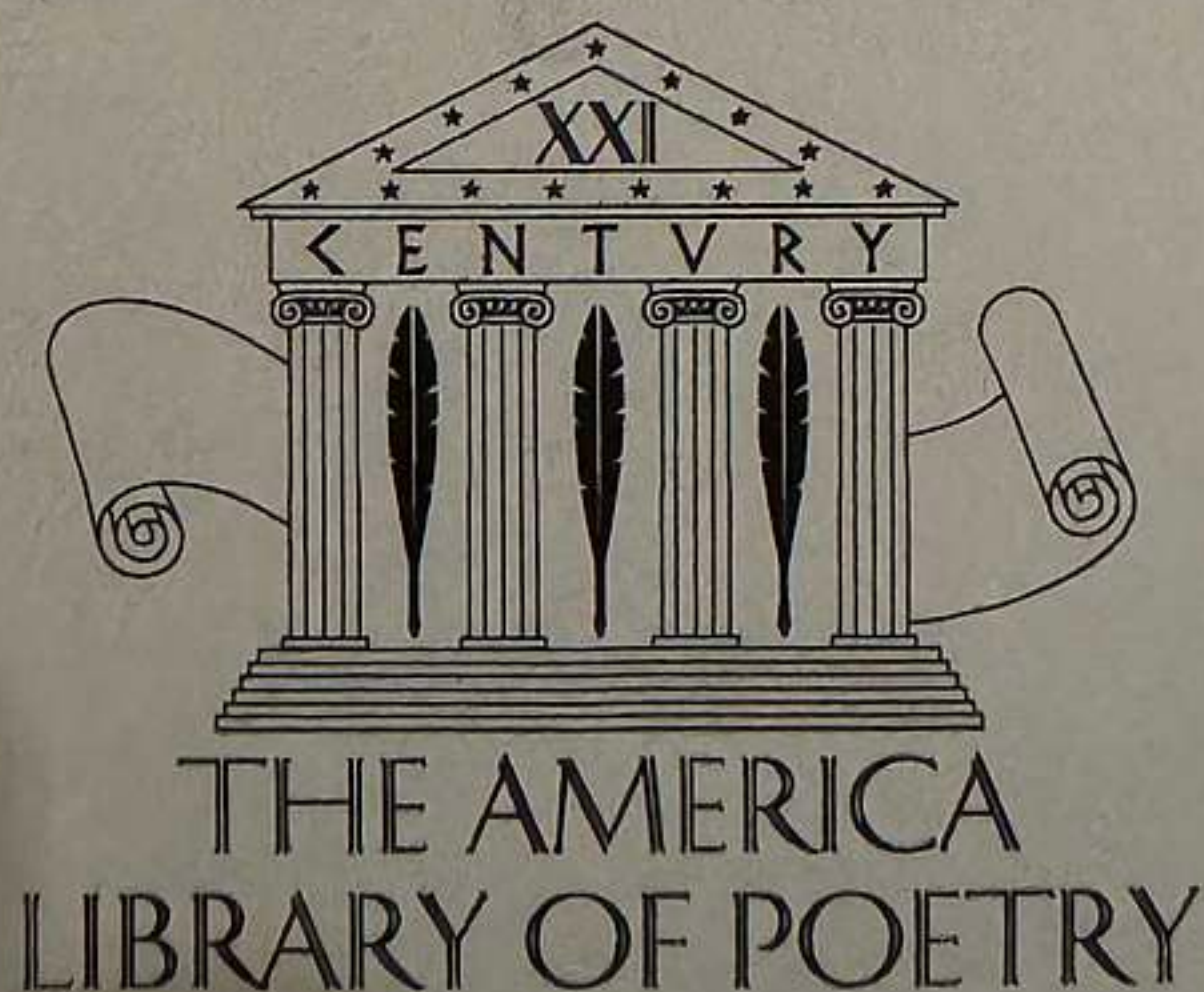
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Contents

Foreword	5
About the Editor's Choice Award	6
Spirit of Education Awards	7

Poetry by Division

Division I Grades 3-5	9
Division II Grades 6-7	63
Division III Grades 8-9	127
Division IV Grades 10-12	177

Index of Authors	218
Ordering Resilience	223

Resilience



Foreword

There are two kinds of writers in the world.
There are those who write from experience,

and those who write from imagination.

The experienced, offer words that are a reflection of their lives.
The triumphs they have enjoyed, the heartaches they have endured;
all the things that have made them who they are,
they graciously share with us, as a way of sharing themselves,
and in doing so, give us, as readers, someone to whom we may relate,
as well as fresh new perspectives
on what may be our common circumstances in life.

From the imaginative,
come all the wonderful things we have yet to experience;
from sights unseen, to sounds unheard.

They encourage us to explore the limitless possibilities
of our dreams and fantasies,
and aid us in escaping, if only temporarily,
the confines of reality and the rules of society.

To each, we owe a debt of gratitude;
and rightfully so, as each provides a service of equal importance.

Yet, without the other, neither can be truly beneficial.
For instance, one may succeed in accumulating a lifetime of experience,
only to consider it all to have been predictable and unfulfilling,
if denied the chance to chase a dream or two along the way.
Just as those whose imaginations run away with them never to return,
may find that without solid footing in the real world,
life in fantasyland is empty.

As you now embark, dear reader,
upon your journey through these words to remember,
you are about to be treated to both heartfelt tales of experience,
and captivating adventures of imagination.

It is our pleasure to present them for your enjoyment.

To our many authors,
who so proudly represent the two kinds of writers in the world,
we dedicate this book, and offer our sincere thanks;
for now, possibly more than ever,
the world needs you both.

Paul Wilson Charles
Editor

Bird

by Abigail Dionisio

The little bird jumped off the twig,
his mother takes him in her wing.
She lifts him back up to the nest,
and watches closely as he rests.
But in his dream the bird did sing
of flying off to see new things.
Finally seeing our world, so vast.
Finding food and building fast.
For when the storm comes thundering,
alone at last the bird would sing.

Bloom

by Willow Bailey

A thousand memories
Waiting to be unlocked,
Bright bursting light
Hidden in the dark,
A clock that can't tell time
And a record always playing,
Drama that never ends
With sweet sugar rain,
A world of black and white
With so many shades of grey,
Stick together
Through thick and thin
Because
Opposites attract.

My Forlorn Fate

by Amber Lin

I shuddered, frightened of the vivid, mystic night
When onyx-necked swans appeared before my rosy sight
The hazy wings had gently grazed my cheek
But he then ripped my tongue out with a shriek
Once pristine, the sinful cygnus morphed into a beastly fright
Crowns of ivory hardened 'round his head
His rear became a coiled, twirling tail
Slimy scales concealed his rotting feathers
Sanguine liquid trickled down his dented bite
Murky eyes that caught their prey in fleeting trail
Now the spiteful serpent views my state
Weeping softly, I lament my forlorn fate
His lispng tongue came close to me and whispered,
"You're mine forever now, my Queen."

*The America Library of Poetry
is pleased to present this impressive collection
of student poetry from across the United States.
Each year, we receive thousands of submissions
and publish hundreds of talented young authors,
many for the first time.*

*It is our hope that these writers
as well as those who read their work
will be encouraged in their literary pursuits.*

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