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Line count: 16  
Category: Poetry  
Suggested Tags: faith, trust, courage  
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## Poetry Guidelines for [www.JobToJoy.us](http://www.JobToJoy.us)

**Job To Joy** focuses on a positive, encouraging tone for people in a job or career transition.

### Basic Mechanics

1. Name your poems and include your name, such as: **“Poem” by Your Name.**
2. In the subject line of your submission e-mail, put: JobToJoy Poem “Title”.
3. Poems can be a variety of lengths, and should have an appropriate title.
4. Put your contact information in the header or e-mail of each poem you submit (see example above). Include your: name, mailing address, e-mail address, and 10-digit phone number. This is only in case we have a question and is not posted with your poem.
5. Electronic submissions only; as an attachment, or in the body of your e-mail message.
6. Poetry format includes: a title, the lines of the poem arranged the way you want them to appear, and your © copyright date and name; such as: © 2011, Your Name.
7. One to three sentences about the occasion for writing the poem may be included after your poem. This is not required or expected, just available to poets.
8. Put your author’s/poet’s BIO in the footer, or after the poem (see example below).
9. Attach a photo of yourself to your e-mail; JPG file types are preferred, small files please.
10. Please specify whether your poem is available for use on free e-cards.

### Poetry Forms

1. We welcome most poetry forms: tradition verse, haiku, limerick, free verse, sonnets, and others –tell us which form you followed; our poetry editor will select those we publish.
2. We welcome short and long poems, story poems and snapshot poems – just tell us the number of lines and whether long lines can be broken to display on computer screens.

### Poetry Writing Tips

1. The [www.JobToJoy.us](http://www.JobToJoy.us) ministry welcomes beginning and advanced poets.
2. Begin with studying and meditating on the Bible so its power supports your efforts.
3. Follow good poetry rules for whichever form of poem you choose to write.
4. Submit poems that speak to our audience, such as job hunting, job loss, discouragement, encouragement, loss, hope, joy in new opportunities, finding God’s will, as so on.
5. Poems submitted should have a positive ending, or positive Biblical truth learned.
6. Use language that appeals to the five senses. Show emotion in your poetry.
7. Seek to empathize with, and encourage readers, in their Christian walk and life despite their current circumstances.
8. Read your poem aloud, before submitting. Does it make sense? Can it speak to people?

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**EXAMPLE Writer’s BIO:** Jeanetta Chrystie is a freelance writer and speaker. She has sold more than 500 articles, 200 newspaper and newsletter columns, and 50 poems. She founded the Ozarks Chapter of American Christian Writers (see [www.OzarksACW.org](http://www.OzarksACW.org)); and teaches online college courses for Southwest Minnesota State University. She and her husband enjoy gardening, Skype with their grandchildren, and snuggling by the fireplace & on the porch swing.