## Where the Poetree Grows: Los Gatos High School Honors Poetry

Nestled in the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains, Los Gatos High School is a vibrant and diverse community of learners. For over a century, the school has been known for its academic excellence, its commitment to the arts, and its dedication to student expression. In recent years, Los Gatos High has taken its commitment to poetry to new heights, with the creation of the Poetree, a living memorial to the power of words.



### Where the Poetree Grows (Los Gatos High School Honors Poetry Book 3) by Franki Sibberson

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#### The Birth of the Poetree

The Poetree was born out of a desire to create a space where students could share their voices and connect with others through the written word. In 2015, English teacher Heather Kresge and her students began brainstorming ideas for a project that would celebrate poetry and encourage student expression. They landed on the idea of a living tree that

would be planted on campus and serve as a symbol of the school's commitment to the arts.

The students worked with the school's administration to find the perfect location for the Poetree. They chose a spot in the quad, where it would be visible to all students and visitors. The tree was planted in the spring of 2016, and the students began to write poems that would be hung on its branches.

#### **A Living Memorial to the Power of Words**

The Poetree has quickly become a beloved part of the Los Gatos High School community. It is a place where students can come to share their thoughts and feelings, to connect with others, and to find inspiration. The poems that hang on the tree are a testament to the power of words to move, inspire, and heal.

The Poetree is also a symbol of the school's commitment to the arts. Los Gatos High School has a long and storied tradition of supporting the arts, and the Poetree is a testament to the belief that the arts are essential to a well-rounded education. The tree provides a space where students can express themselves creatively and explore their own unique voices.

#### A Legacy of Literary Excellence

The Poetree is just one example of Los Gatos High School's commitment to poetry. The school has a long and storied tradition of honoring poetry, dating back to its founding in 1904. The school's first principal, James P. Mitchell, was a poet himself, and he encouraged his students to express themselves through the written word. Mitchell's legacy continues today, and Los Gatos High School is known for its strong creative writing program.

The school offers a variety of creative writing courses, including poetry, fiction, and screenwriting. Students are also encouraged to participate in the school's literary magazine, The Inkwell. The Inkwell publishes student writing, artwork, and photography, and it provides a platform for students to share their creative work with the community.

#### **Inspiring Students to Reach Their Potential**

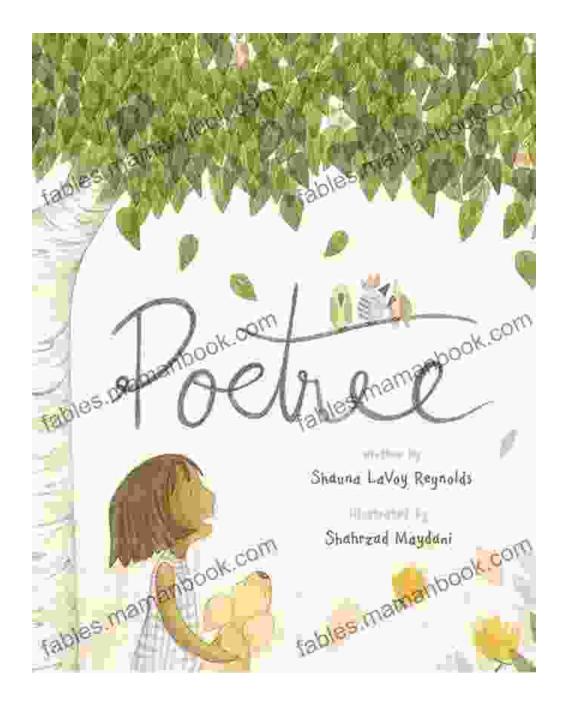
Los Gatos High School is committed to providing its students with the tools they need to reach their full potential. The school's focus on poetry is just one example of how the school is helping students to develop their creativity, their critical thinking skills, and their ability to communicate effectively.

The Poetree is a symbol of the school's belief in the power of words. The tree is a place where students can come to express themselves, to connect with others, and to find inspiration. It is a reminder that words have the power to move, inspire, and heal. And it is a testament to the school's commitment to providing its students with the tools they need to reach their full potential.

#### **Image Gallery**









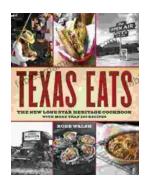
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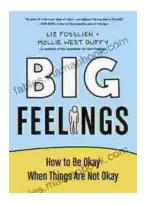
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