

BEVELED GLASS
by Jessie E Turner

The letters - my letters
She kept each one I sent
To read again and again
And at her passing
Bequeathed to me
That stack of yellowed envelopes.

I read them today
Opening musty drapes in my heart;
Letting sunlight filter through prism glass.

My gift to her
Giving me a glimpse
Through the beveled pane of my yesterdays.

Love-distorted words catch the sunlight
And cast rainbows on my grief.

August 9, 1983 (with revisions) Jessie E
Turner

When I get shaky on my feet
And blackness closes in around me
It's good to have
Something to hang on to
That's when I'm glad
I've written in my journal

i like your friensahip i sthink your books are
good
Dale Gooch

I do a lot of Family History. Each document I
locate tells me a piece of their lives. From the
documents, combined with a little local period
history, I compile stories for my ancestral
families. Sometimes I am lucky enough to
have letters or family stories to add.
Altogether they make a nice biography. I love
getting to know my family members through
their stories and sharing them with my family.
Barbara Stoddard

(About writing a family history:) It is a
great undertaking I know, but you will
benefit from it far more than anyone
else.

Leone Hatch

Each time I take the risk to write, I discover
something new within myself.
Virginia Tappenbeck

When I look back at my journals, they
return the moment complete with
sights, smells, the time of day, and the
emotions I felt. It is amazing.
Sometimes it evokes the feeling, "was I
ever that young?" Sometimes it helps
me to remember my goals or how much
I've grown over the years.

Jan Nerenberg

Dear Mama,

Thank you for entrusting me with the
beautiful porcelain dish that belonged to
Great Grandma LeFevre. I was afraid to
take anything valuable or fragile, but I
have been struggling with my own
feelings of inadequacy and have come to
realize that it would not be fair to my
children and grandchildren if I refused
to be the steward of heirlooms which
should be passed down to them.

Love, Jessie

When I write I take a journey. For me,
writing is just sharing the journey with
others.

Tim Mead

Every heart has its own poetry; each
beautiful in its own way.

Jessie Turner

Writing to someone else often lets me
express what I need to hear myself.

Jessie Turner

My poetry is a way to express how I feel... It is a way to let someone know what is in my heart and share my hopes and dreams for them. I occasionally write something just for fun but usually it is to share my heart with someone I care about.

Janet Abbott

March 18, 1997

Dear Grandma,

It has been eight months since you died. I miss you still very much. I never realized how much a part of me you are.

You were my safe harbor. When I was with you I could be a child. I knew you would care for me. You always made me feel like a very important person and that I was free to be me.

I love you, Grandma. I love the beauty you painted upon my life. I don't want to let go of you, but I need to let you do whatever you need to do and I need to go forward with my life. Someday we will meet again and I will tell you about how it felt for me to be a grandma. I hope I will touch my grandchildren as you touched me. Thank you, Grandma.

Love,
Jessie

I was named after one of my mother's grandmothers. I have often wished that I had something she had written, but I had to be content to hear my mother say. "Everybody loved her."

Then Mama began to write about her own life. When she wrote about her memories of her grandmother, I felt almost as though I had been there. My great-grandmother became more than a name. She became a real person to me.

And then I found the pictures taken of a family vacation. What treasures! But the best treasure of all: Great-Grandma wrote on the backs of the pictures! I discovered her sense of humor for myself. I saw her handwriting. I got my wish!

The very act of writing forces articulation. It makes it happen.

Jessie Turner

Of all the classes I took in high school, I have used typing the most. My skills and my grades once fell far short of excellence, but I kept at it. I'm so glad I don't have to beg people to do my typing anymore. I am free to create whatever I can imagine.

Jessie Turner