

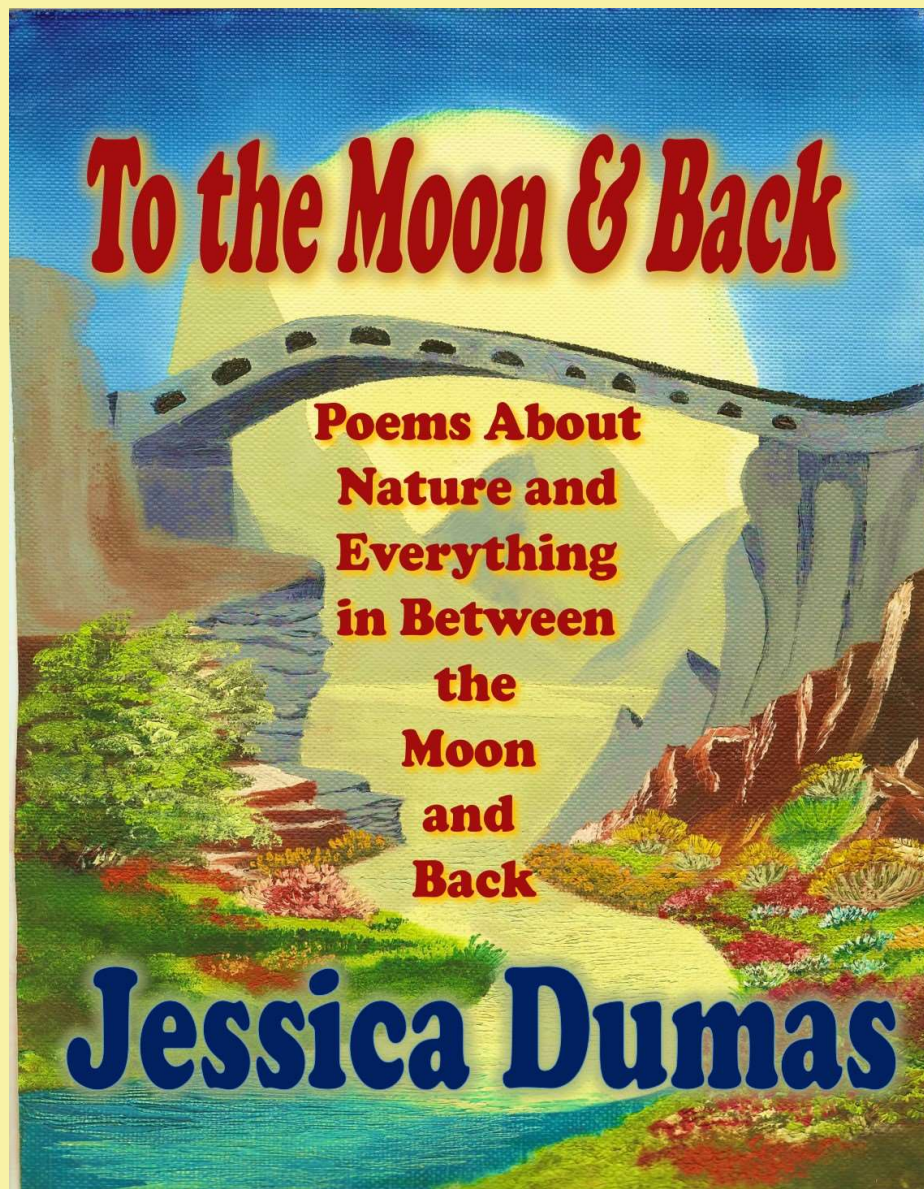


# *To the Moon & Back*

**Poems About  
Nature and  
Everything  
in Between  
the  
Moon  
and  
Back**

**Jessica Dumas**





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## **DEDICATION**

This book is dedicated to all the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of Jessica Dumas in hopes that one or more of them will become a poet.



# Welcome To the Moon & Back

The poetry in this book will give you a lighthearted and carefree feeling. Many of the poems are about nature from the moon to the sea and many wonderful things in between.

The poems in this book were written mostly by Jessica Dumas. Some are about the places she has traveled to and may give you ideas on where to go for your next vacation.

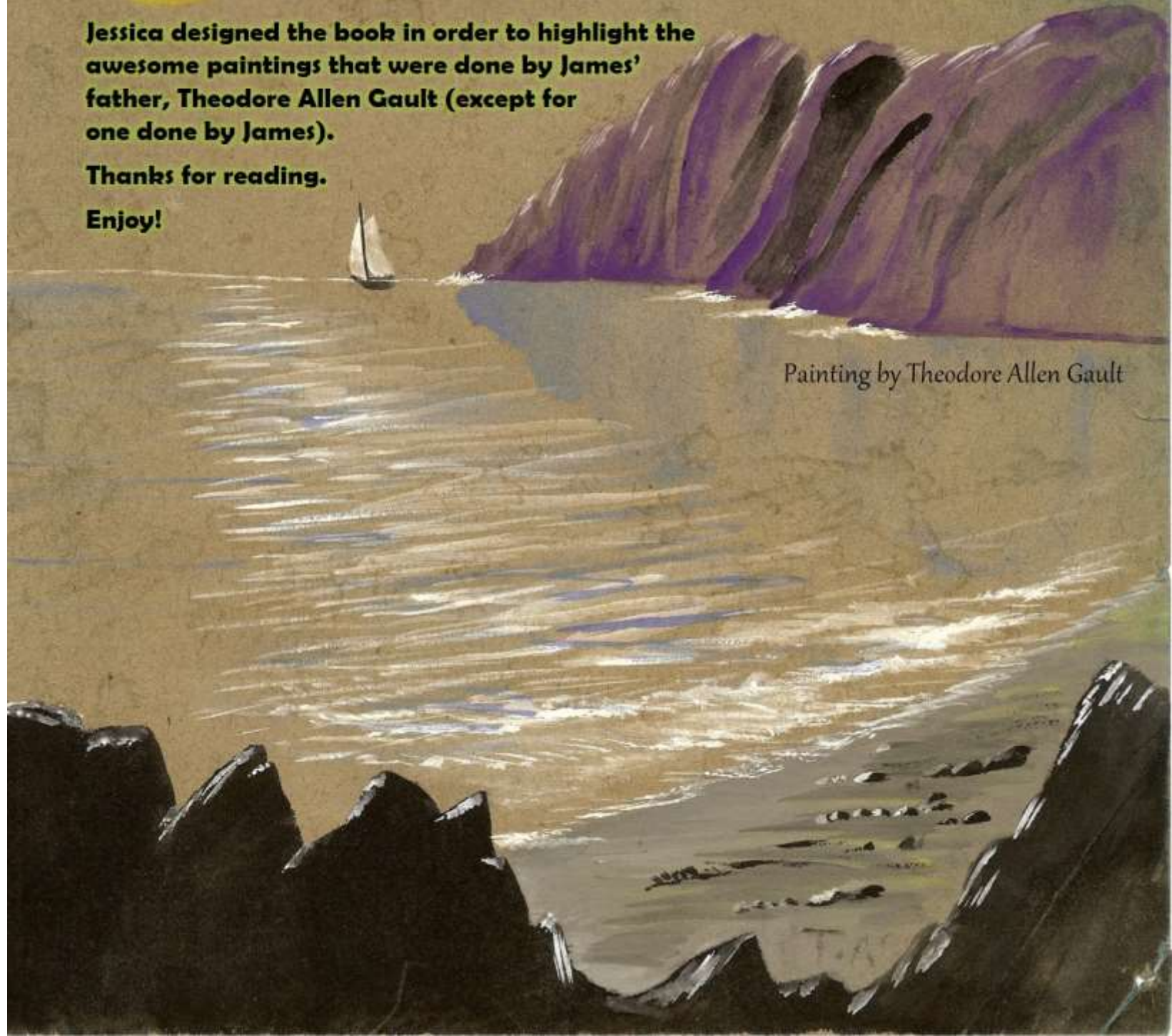
Some of these poems were written by James Gault and Jessica Dumas. He came up with the basics of the poems and she critiqued them by adding to and editing them to rhyme.

Jessica designed the book in order to highlight the awesome paintings that were done by James' father, Theodore Allen Gault (except for one done by James).

Thanks for reading.

Enjoy!

Painting by Theodore Allen Gault







# About the Artists



## Jessica Dumas:

Jessica is a native Minnesotan who grew up near the Twin Cities but now lives in Arizona. She's been a writer since 2016 and a poet since 2000. Her business, the Butterfly Connection, specializes in writing and designing books, creating Word documents, and designing PowerPoint videos. She has books on Amazon and Blurb.com.



## James Gault:

James is a Native American from the Lummi Nation of the NW Washington area (also known as the People From the Sea). He grew up in Oregon watching his father paint the paintings in this book and inherited his creativeness. He is an artist and a talented carpenter. He lives in New Mexico and designs tiny houses that are very unique looking as well as functional. Read 'Tiny House' poem near end of Part 2 about them.



**Painting by  
Theodore Allen Gault**



## Theodore Allen Gault (12/15/1911-11/1/1983):

Theodore was better known as Jack and is James' father. He lived in Oregon and loved to paint. He would use almost anything that was handy to paint on such as cardboard or even wood. All paintings in this book including the cover were painted by him (except for one that's by James).

If you would like prints of any paintings (with or without the poem on it), we can send to you for reasonable prices in various sizes. Just let us know which ones you would like by giving the title of the poem in this book, what size, and type of paper.

You can contact us on Jessica's portfolio website at [www.jessicajdumas.com](http://www.jessicajdumas.com) – click on the [Contact Me](#) tab and scroll down to fill out the form and send.

*Thank you!*

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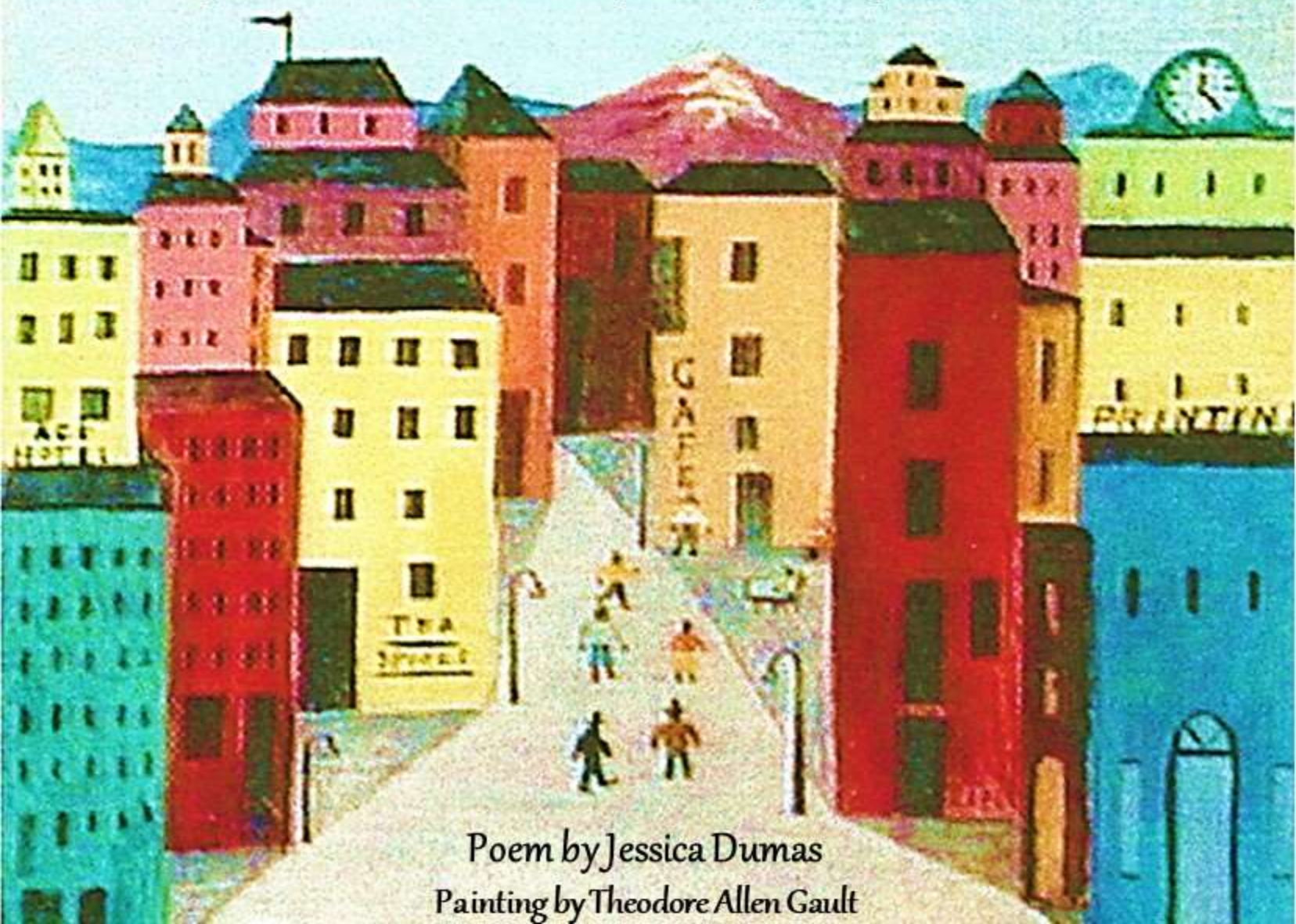




# Mountain Town



During this peculiar pandemic, it is still necessary to go into our mountain town  
Keeping the six-foot distancing rule is fine with me but for many it brings a frown  
If they wear a mask as deemed necessary no one will see if a smile is up or down  
Going grocery shopping is a required, but then the Mrs. wants to buy a nightgown  
This means I'm off to the hardware store for there are countless tools all around  
And then of course, it's to the hobby store to dream shop as it helps me calm down  
We then go to the thrift store as we are thriftaholics excited with several deals found  
We cannot miss dinner so off to Subway before low blood sugar causes a breakdown  
Watching the sun set we realize we've spent all day in our quaint little mountain town.



Poem by Jessica Dumas  
Painting by Theodore Allen Gault

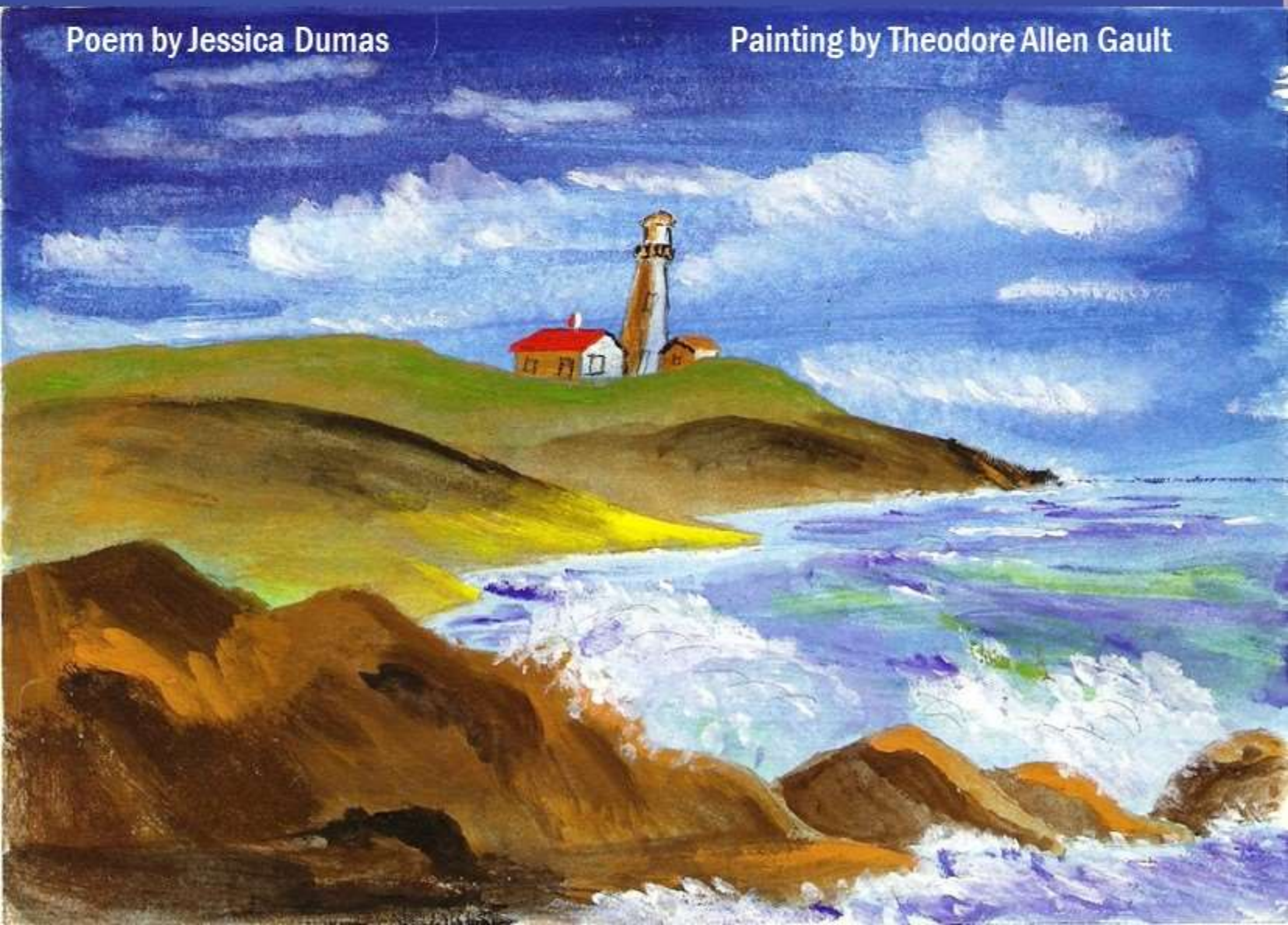


# SECURE HORIZONS

Many of our water-filled horizons have been made secure  
By lighthouses looking for invaders who aren't too pure  
Most lighthouses have times you can visit and take a tour  
Split Rock in Lake County of North Minnesota is one for sure  
It overlooks Lake Superior to let ships know when to detour  
The huge light is called a lamp and has many a lens mirror  
You'll never see another like it as its splendor becomes an allure  
Many are closing down—how will we keep our horizons secure?

Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore Allen Gault





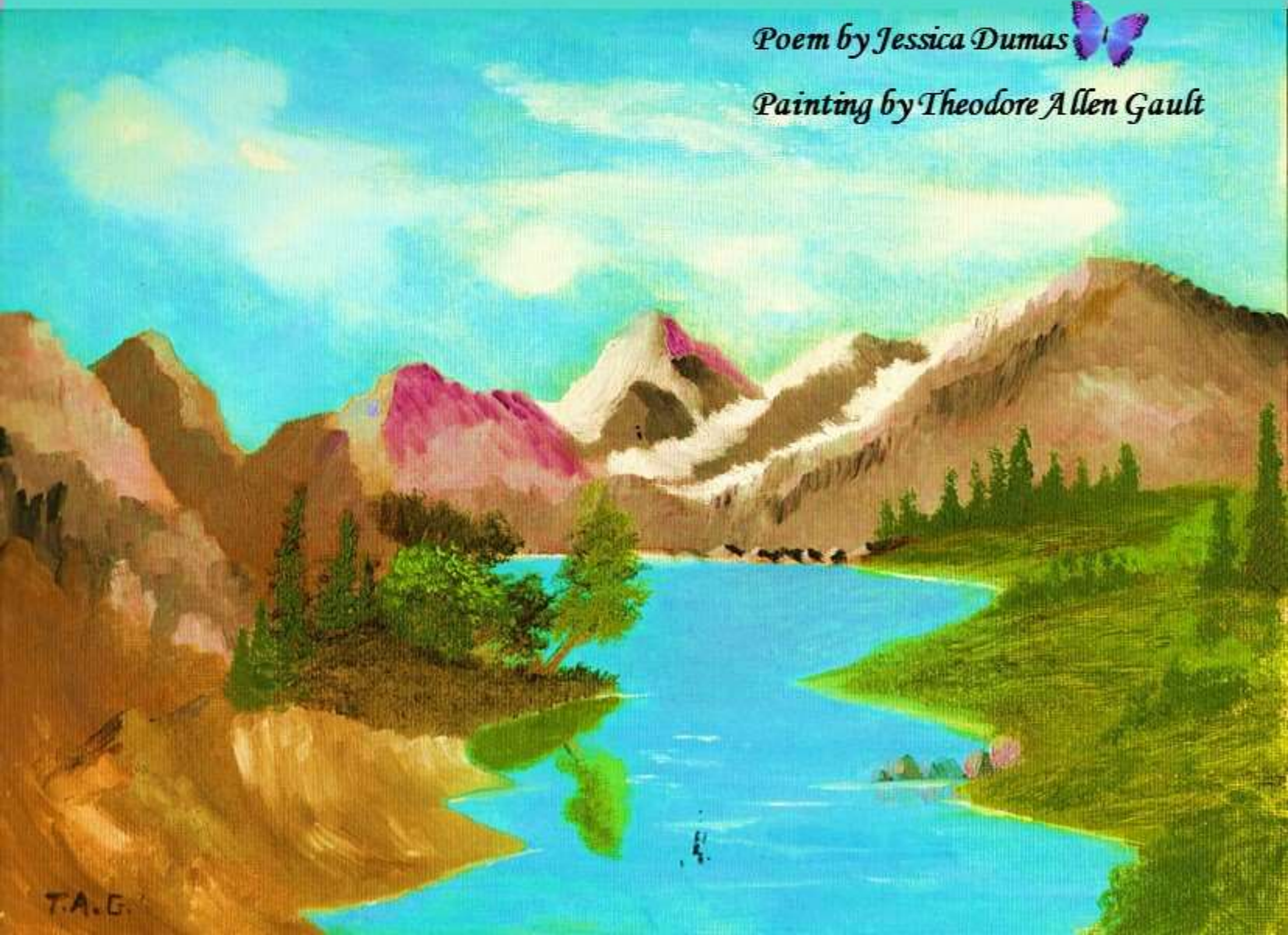
# RIVER RUNS THROUGH

**Snowcapped mountains have a river running through  
It ripples as the beavers build houses in the cold blue  
They gather sticks and then hold it together with glue  
Catching trout to cook on open flame makes one anew  
Many a tribe fish the clear waters including the Sioux  
They get to enjoy the clean crisp air and a wonderful view  
Let's keep it preserved as I'd rather go here than the zoo.**

*Poem by Jessica Dumas*



*Painting by Theodore Allen Gault*





# MOON BREAKERS

After the radiant sunset puts the ocean to sleep for the night  
In come the dark breaker waves with bouncing white caps  
Watched by the man in the moon who's sometimes out of sight  
The rocks on shore stand still as the crashing waves do laps  
Then the winds blow clouds away for glimpses of moonlight  
And the moon breakers jump up high in an applause of claps.

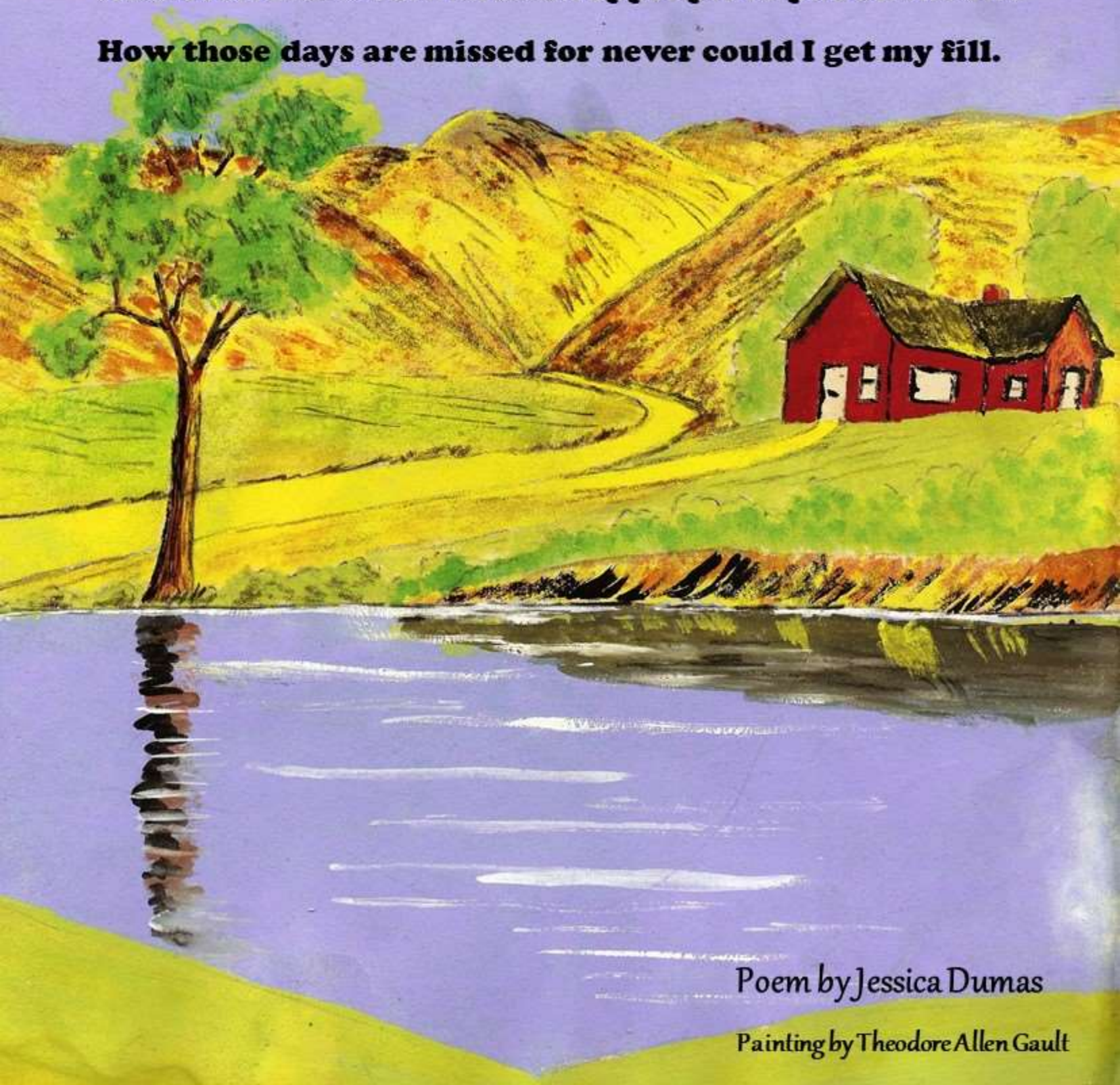
Poem by Jessica Dumas  
Painting by Theodore Allen Gault

T.A.G.



# RED CABIN

**There once was a red cabin at the bottom of a golden hill  
With a sparkling lake to fish in and swim for a cool thrill  
The hills turned gold in the Fall after the air got a chill  
And Grandma would bake an apple pie to put on the sill  
How those days are missed for never could I get my fill.**



Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore Allen Gault



# Dandelion Wine



My mother used to make dandelion wine  
She loved her own concoction as it felt fine  
Bravely I tasted it and let out a loud whine  
So sour and nasty that my dad calls it slime  
My brother tried it then drank for a long time  
Mom drank to forget until tomorrow's sunshine  
Then she'd get sick and I'd be the mom at age nine  
When grown, I did not like wine even when I dine  
Drinking whiskey was my thing 'til I hurt my spine  
Now there is no drinking allowed to keep us all in line  
If someone offers you dandelion wine, you must decline.



Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore Allen Gault

T.A.G.



# HOUSEBOAT

**Have you ever wanted to live on a houseboat?**

**There's no need to worry about what keeps you afloat**

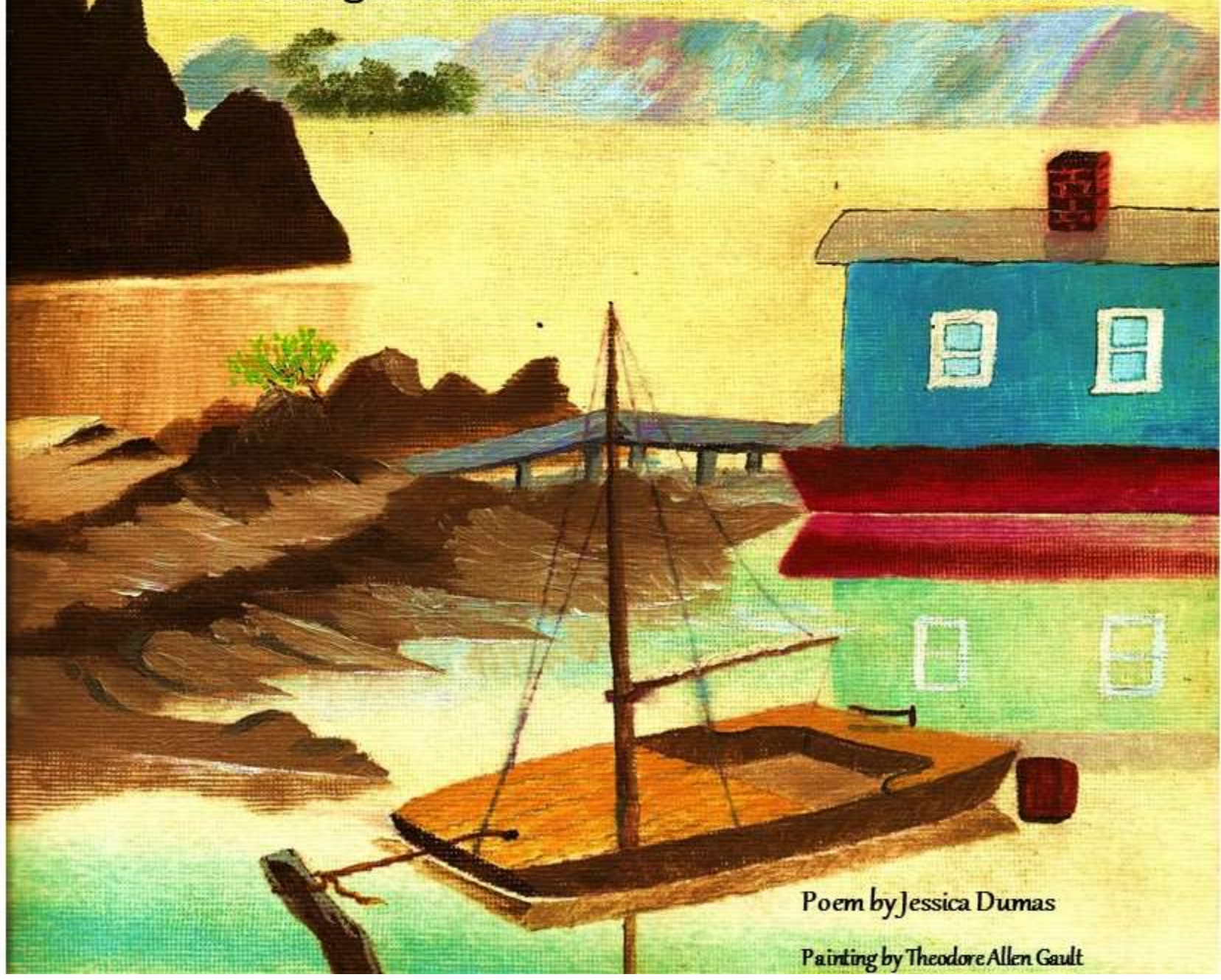
**It would be so much fun to have a huge pool to note**

**Your friends and relatives would not want you to gloat**

**When your special love comes over you may want to dote**

**And then fish for lots of fish to stuff your face and bloat**

**Oh what glorious fun it would be to live on a houseboat.**



Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore Allen Gault

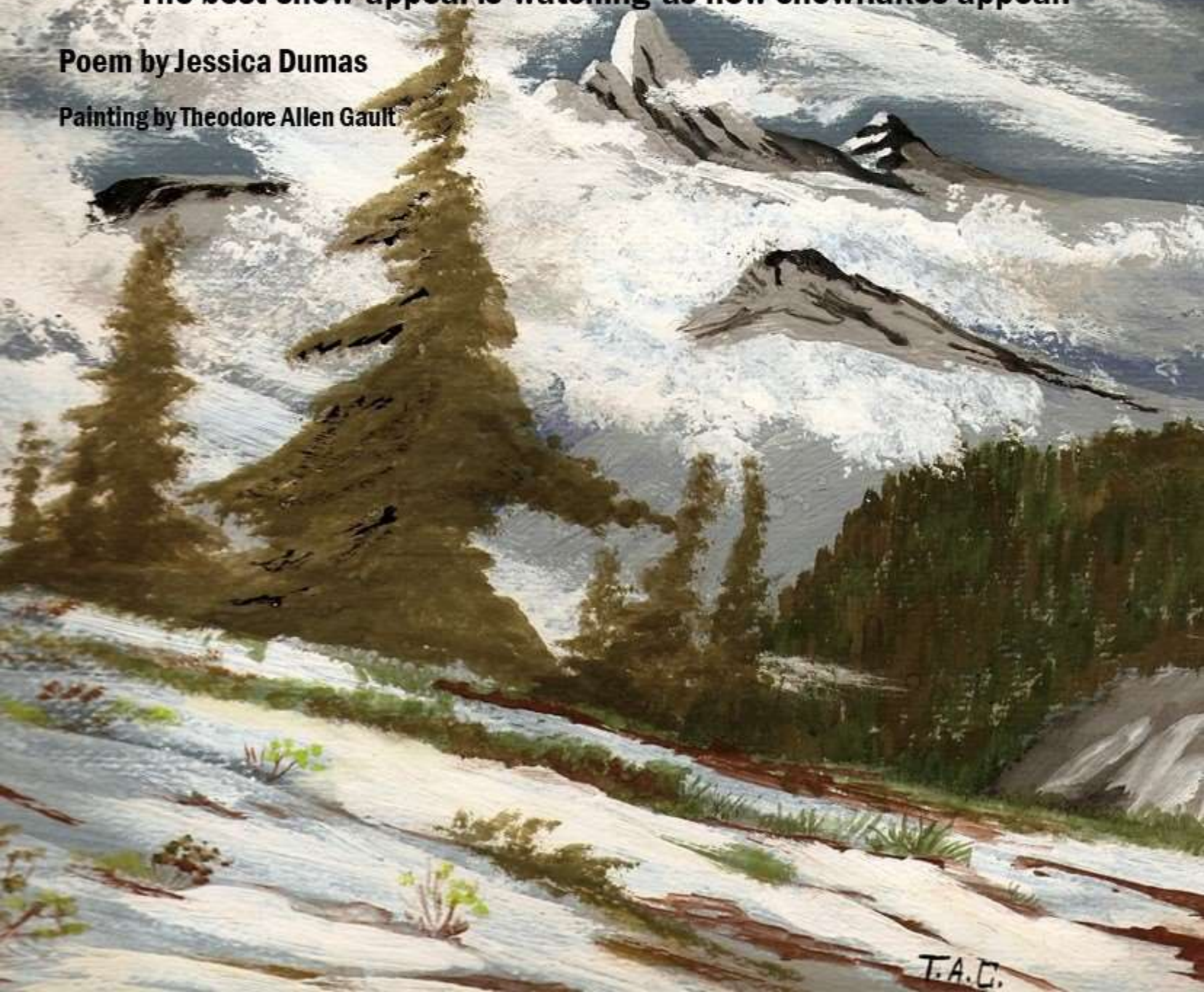


# SNOW APPEAL

Believe it or not... 49 out of the 50 states have snow  
Florida does not get snow so there's lots of bugs to fear  
Not everyone hates snow especially children as they grow  
The people who go skiing total up to over 15 million a year  
Skiing when it snows is fun but cover your face from icy blow  
The many sports played in snow shows that the appeal is clear  
Snowboarding is a favorite sport as the young certainly show  
Sports are not the only appeal as many older ones find it dear  
If they hire someone else to do the shoveling of all that snow  
The best snow appeal is watching as new snowflakes appear.

Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore Allen Gault



T.A.G.



# Cheerful Blooms

*Flowers are not just for funerals with many a tear  
Why don't people grow flowers to cut with a shear?  
They just don't take the time for them it is clear  
Maybe it is the bugs or vermin that some fear  
Or figure the plants will get eaten by deer  
Try growing inside so caring for them is near  
Multiple colors can bloom all year  
The fragrance and colors are dear  
And will bring you cheer!*



T.A.G.

Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore Allen Gault



# LINCOLN CITY

In Oregon, named after Abe Lincoln, 16th President of the states  
A Pacific beach town on 101, southwest of Portland 87 miles  
Fishing on the pier is great if it's not raining dogs and big cats  
Watching the seals waiting on the salmon sure bring smiles  
The rain average of 98 inches per year may be good for flowers  
84% average humidity is too sticky needing too many showers  
Most residents are retired so it must be painful with arthritis  
If thinking of moving to Lincoln City, it is not all beach bliss.

Poem by Jessica Dumas

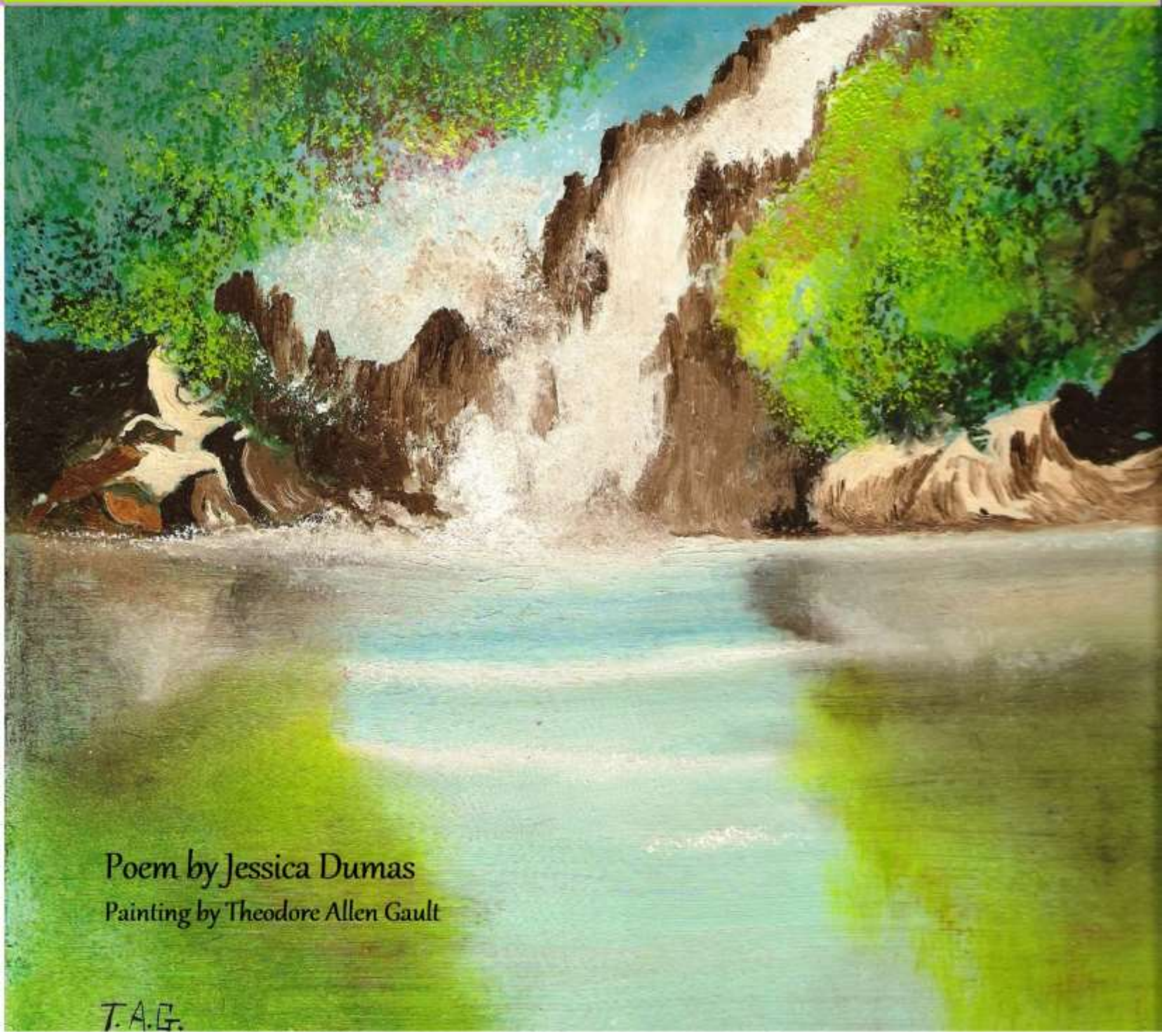
Painting by Theodore Allen Gault





# DEVIL'S KETTLE

Devil's Kettle Waterfall is in Northern Minnesota near Grand Marais  
It looks like this painting and if you get close you can feel its spray  
If you love waterfalls, this one is not crowded as many are, so they say  
On the Brule River, it splits with one side flowing downstream all day  
The other disappears in a hole known as Devil's Kettle and there it stays.



Poem by Jessica Dumas  
Painting by Theodore Allen Gault



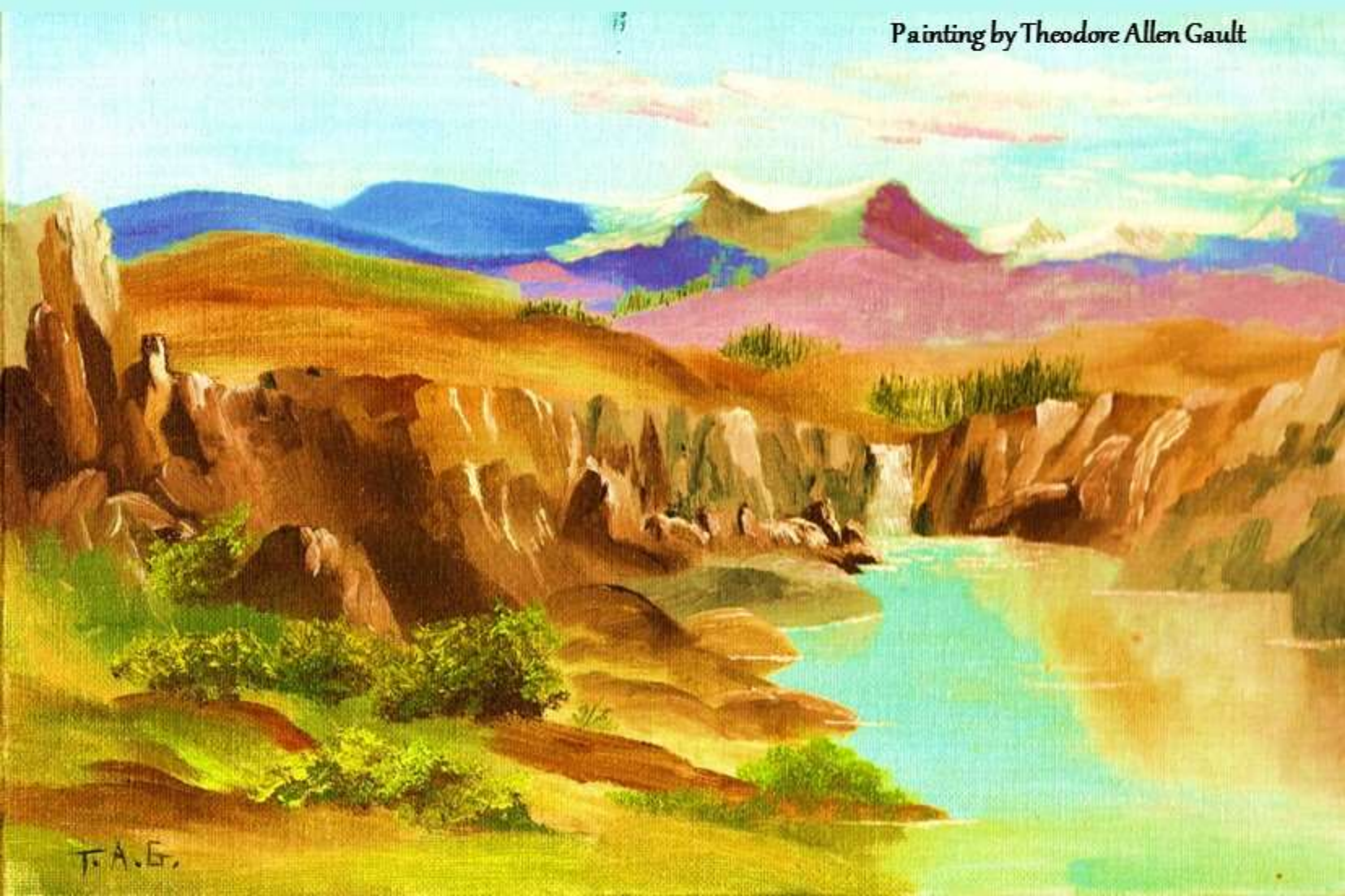
# *Blue Mountains*

**The Blue Mountains of NE Oregon are a site to seek  
Sacajewea at almost 10,000 feet is the highest peak  
With several others over 9,000 in Butte of Rock Creek  
As part of the Columbia River Plateau many falls meet  
With some of the oldest rock formations in the West  
A railroad passes from Portland to Idaho going East  
Where you see elk and deer near Kamela's summit crest.**

Poem by Jessica Dumas



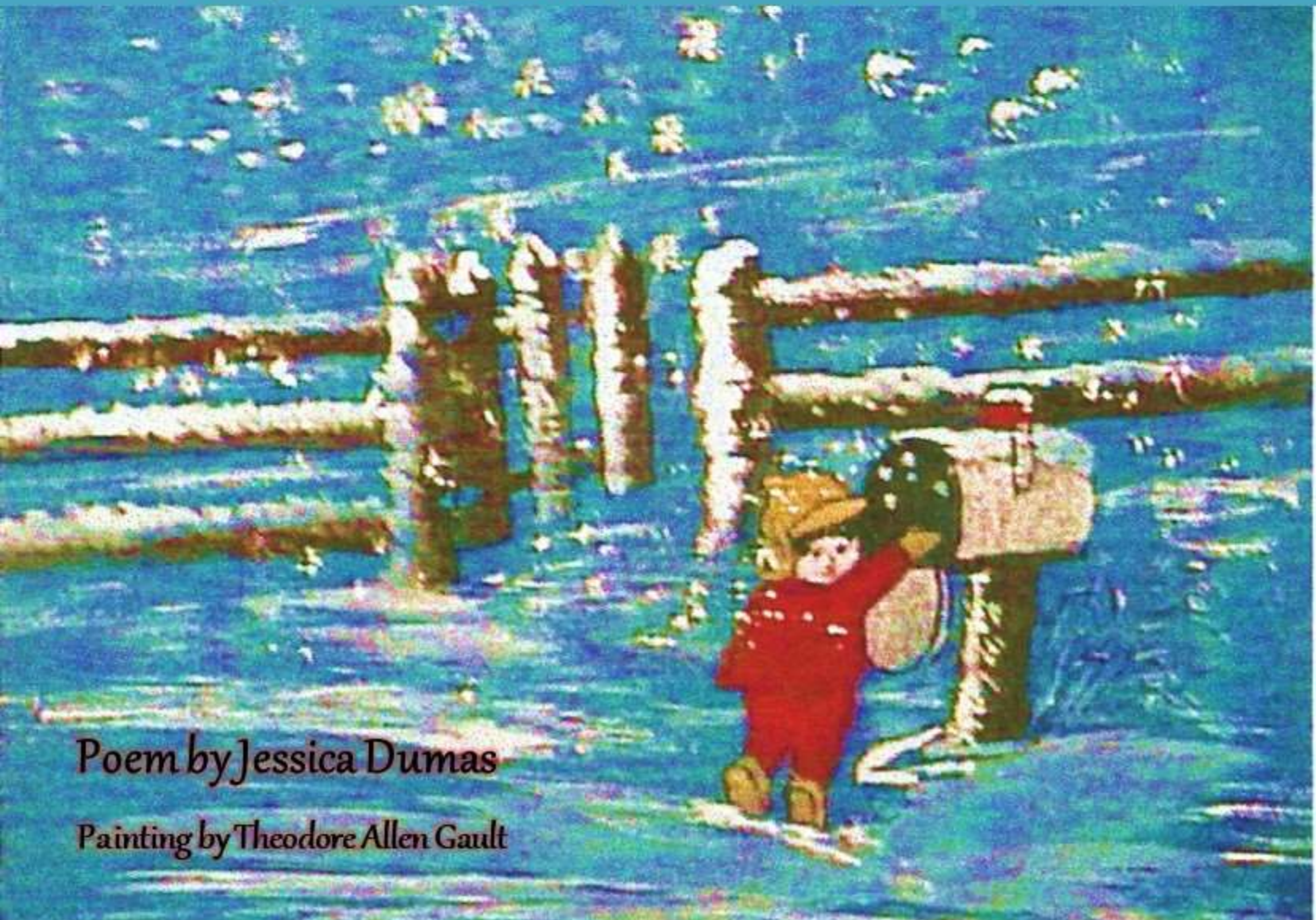
Painting by Theodore Allen Gault





# mailbox manners

There used to be letter writing etiquette,  
but with email, sending letters has quit.  
Maybe an occasional card to a grandchild.  
We used to get so many they had to be filed.  
But people do not even send a card on holidays.  
Remember having a pen pal in a love letter craze?  
As a kid, did you do a mailbox frozen tongue test?  
Sticking your tongue on a mailbox would stress  
how much nerve you had to your friends,  
but your tongue would hurt to no ends!



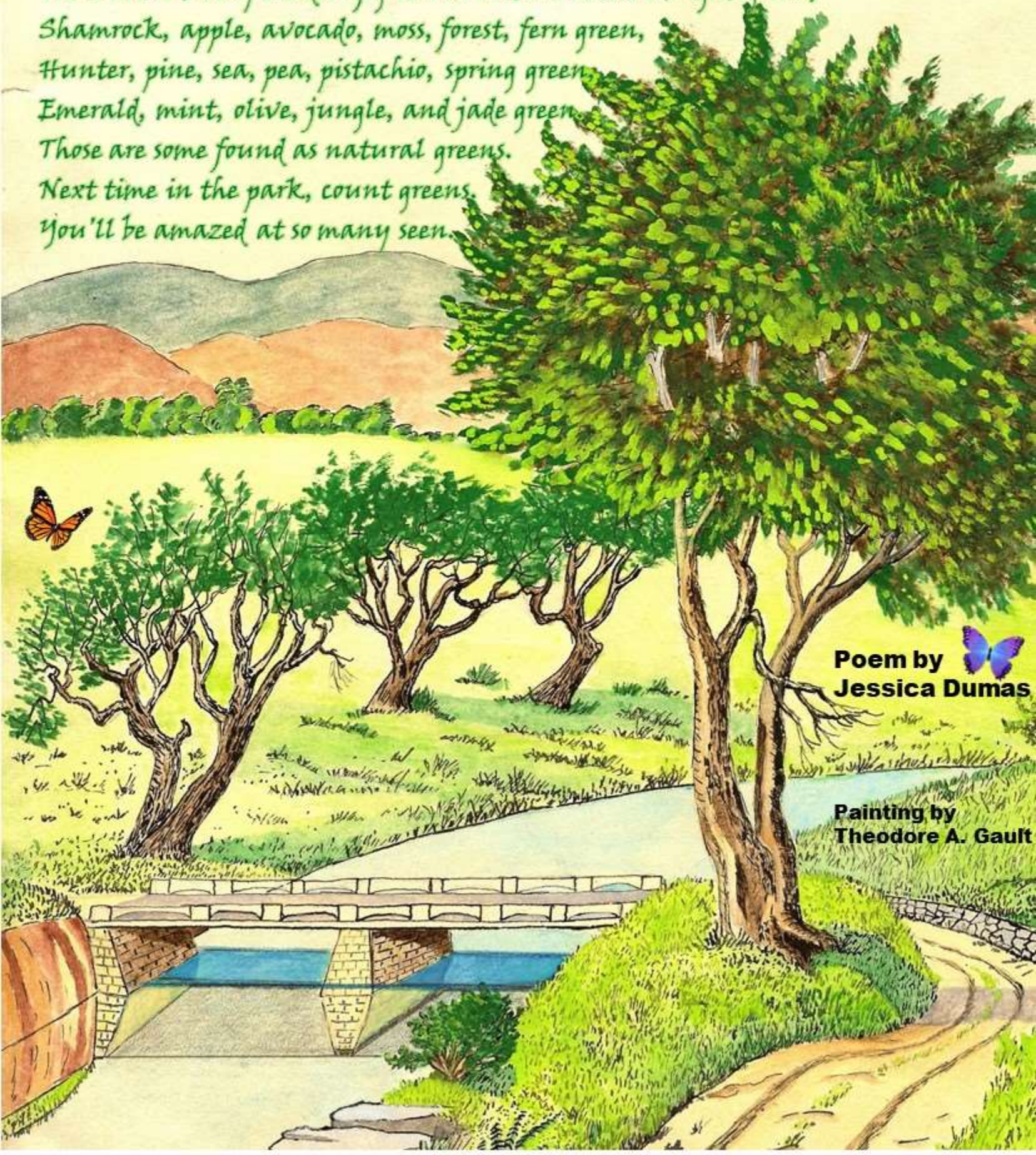
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# SHADES OF GREEN

Nature is full of green colors even though some say green is just green.  
There are so many shades of green in nature such as bright green,  
Shamrock, apple, avocado, moss, forest, fern green,  
Hunter, pine, sea, pea, pistachio, spring green,  
Emerald, mint, olive, jungle, and jade green.  
Those are some found as natural greens.  
Next time in the park, count greens.  
You'll be amazed at so many seen.



Poem by   
Jessica Dumas

Painting by  
Theodore A. Gault



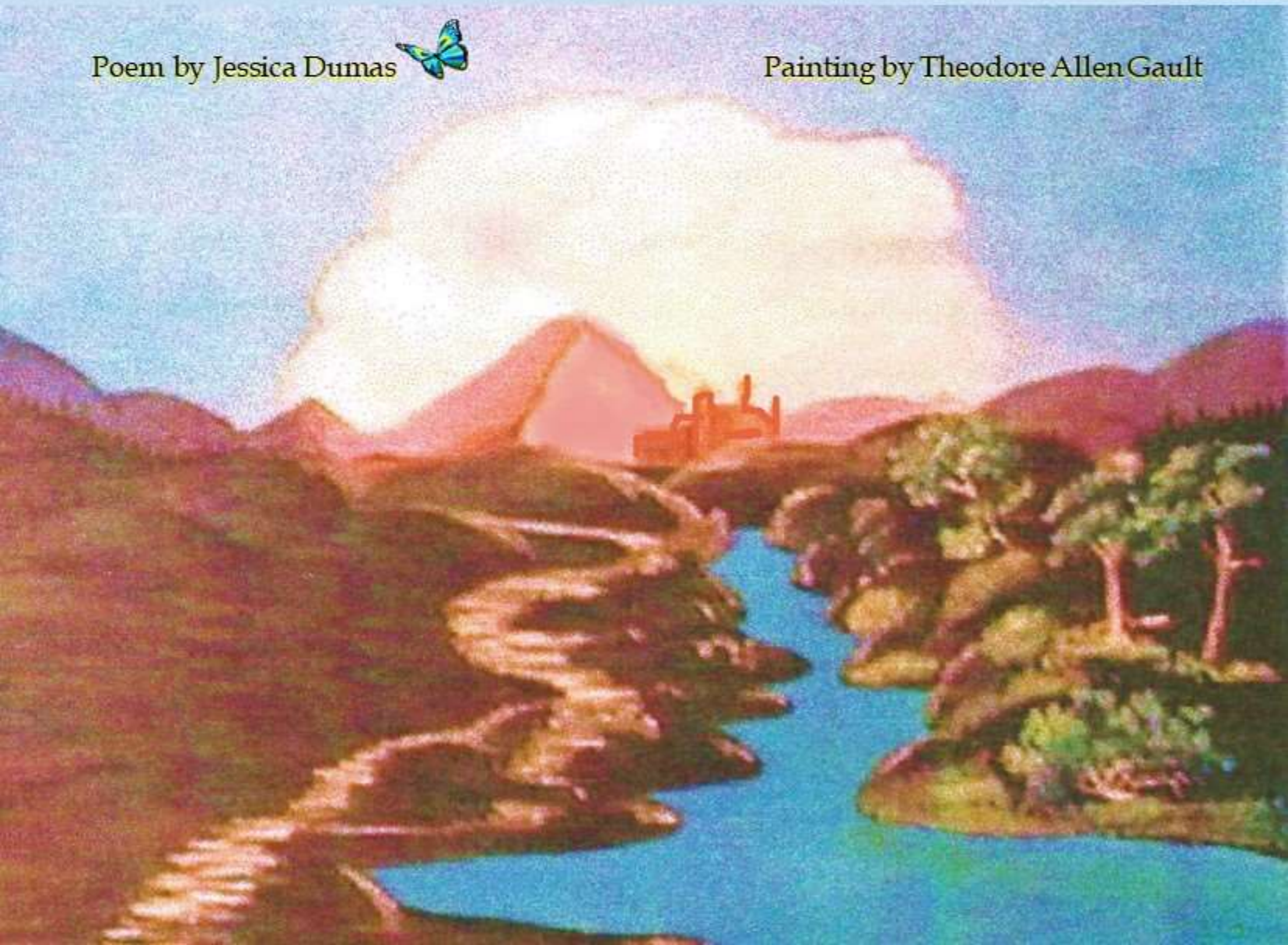
# *Winding Brick Road*

It may not be the Yellow Brick Road, but it winds up to a place that may be as strange  
Looking like a castle next to a pyramid could mean it is a wonderland for fantasy  
Or perhaps its where Frankenstein is working on making more monsters of derange  
What if it's a bunch of serial killers taking hostages to torture and never set free?  
Maybe it's for those not happy with their gender and go there for a secret sex change  
It would be great if it's a giant fashion design firm inviting us for a shopping spree  
But it may be a secret group of spies practicing special weapons on a shooting range  
Or it could be mad scientists like those who made COVID-19 now making a COVID-20  
I could go on and on, but my imagination may make you think I need a brain exchange.

Poem by Jessica Dumas



Painting by Theodore Allen Gault





# *Serenity Mountain*

We need to keep our sanity  
By getting away from society  
So we're not headed to calamity  
Getting away will give us amenity  
As we put together our own identify  
And relax on the mountain of serenity.

Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore Allen Gault

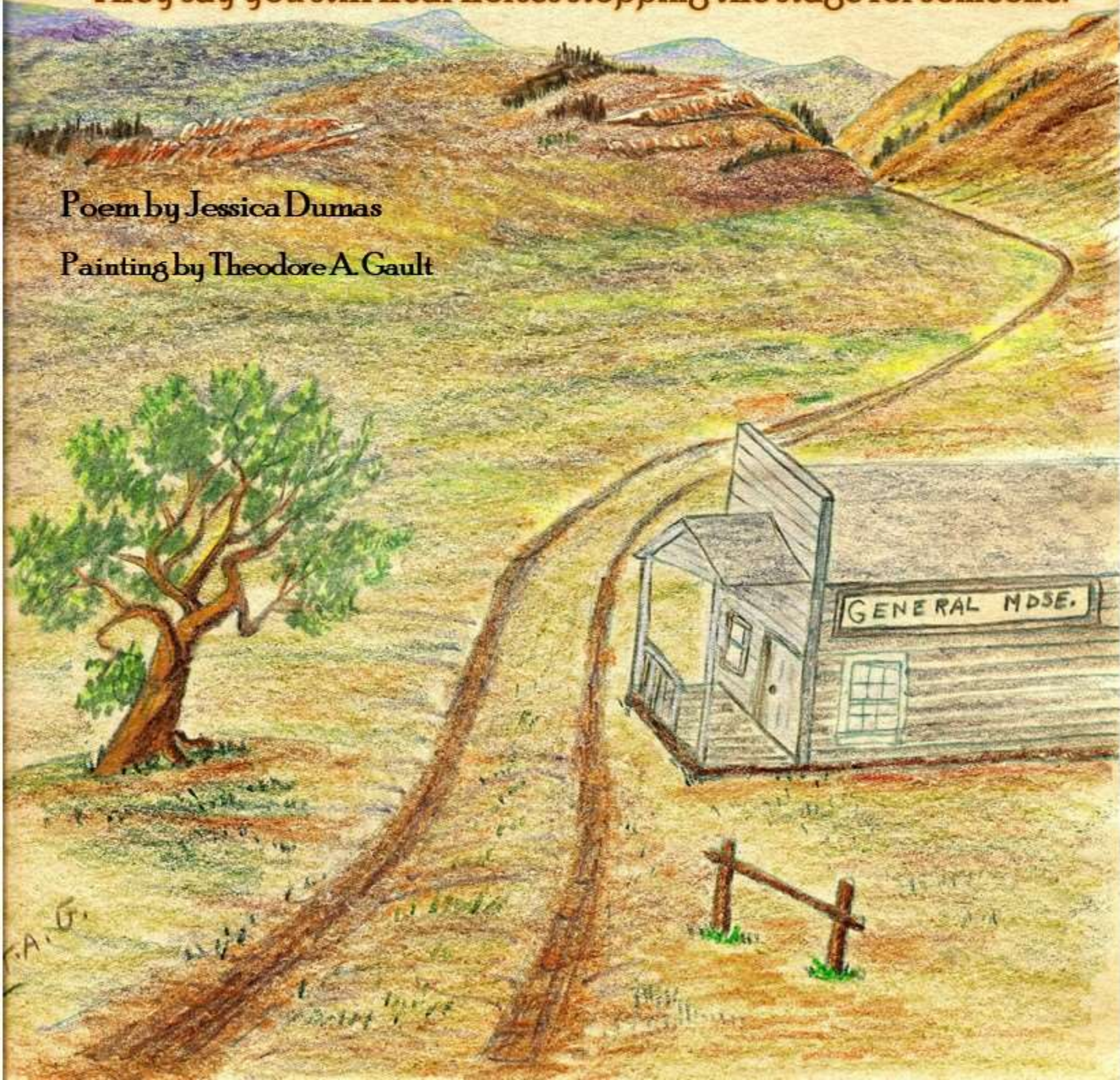


# GHOST TOWN

Out in the middle of nowhere there is a town of no one  
It once was where the stagecoach stopped for anyone  
People left when the highway was put in for everyone  
The General store has shelves with no food for not even one  
They say you still hear horses stopping the stage for someone.

Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore A. Gault



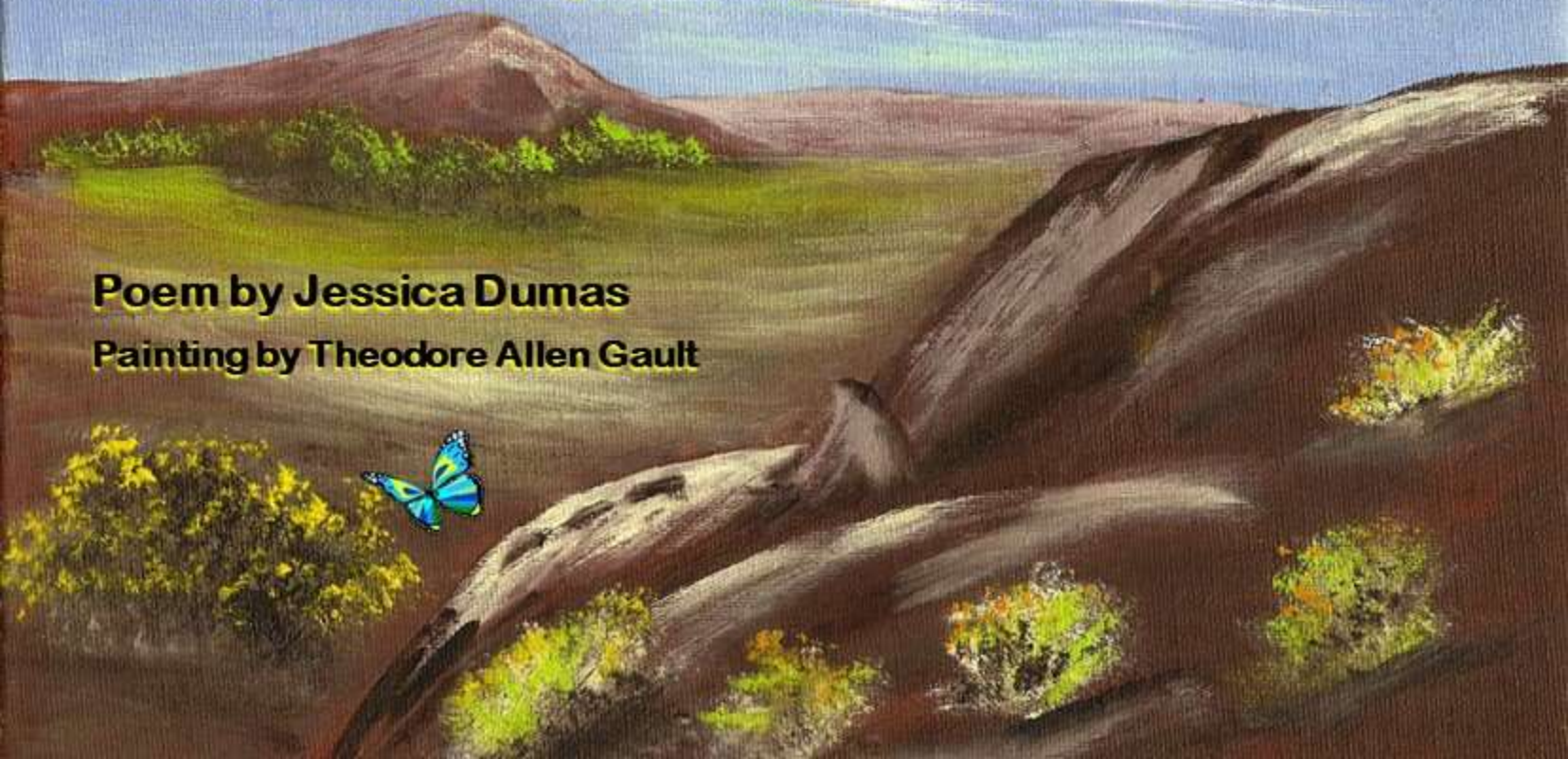


# Rolling Hills

Rolling, rolling, rolling down a river sounds like Tina Turner's Proud Mary  
Those were the good ole days, until 2 in the morning we'd dance like crazy  
We could do it then as we had a strange condition called young and free  
Now we have a different condition called being stubborn and elderly  
Which means that we can't make it to the bathroom in time to pee  
But we also cannot do a lot of other things like enjoy a conversation  
Unless the other person knows we won't remember the discussion  
Besides, we also cannot hear what the other person is saying anyway  
Oh yeah, this was to be about rolling hills, but there goes the memory  
Retrieving a memory is like pulling teeth without Novocain...not for me!  
Then there is how you can all at once laugh, cough, sneeze, and pee  
Yup, you know you're getting old when everything is either dry or leaks  
Another way to know is everything hurts when used or gives you the creeps  
I feel as old as the hills and stiff as rocks in this picture—what a way to live!  
But there is one good thing about old age—it sure beats the alternative!

Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore Allen Gault



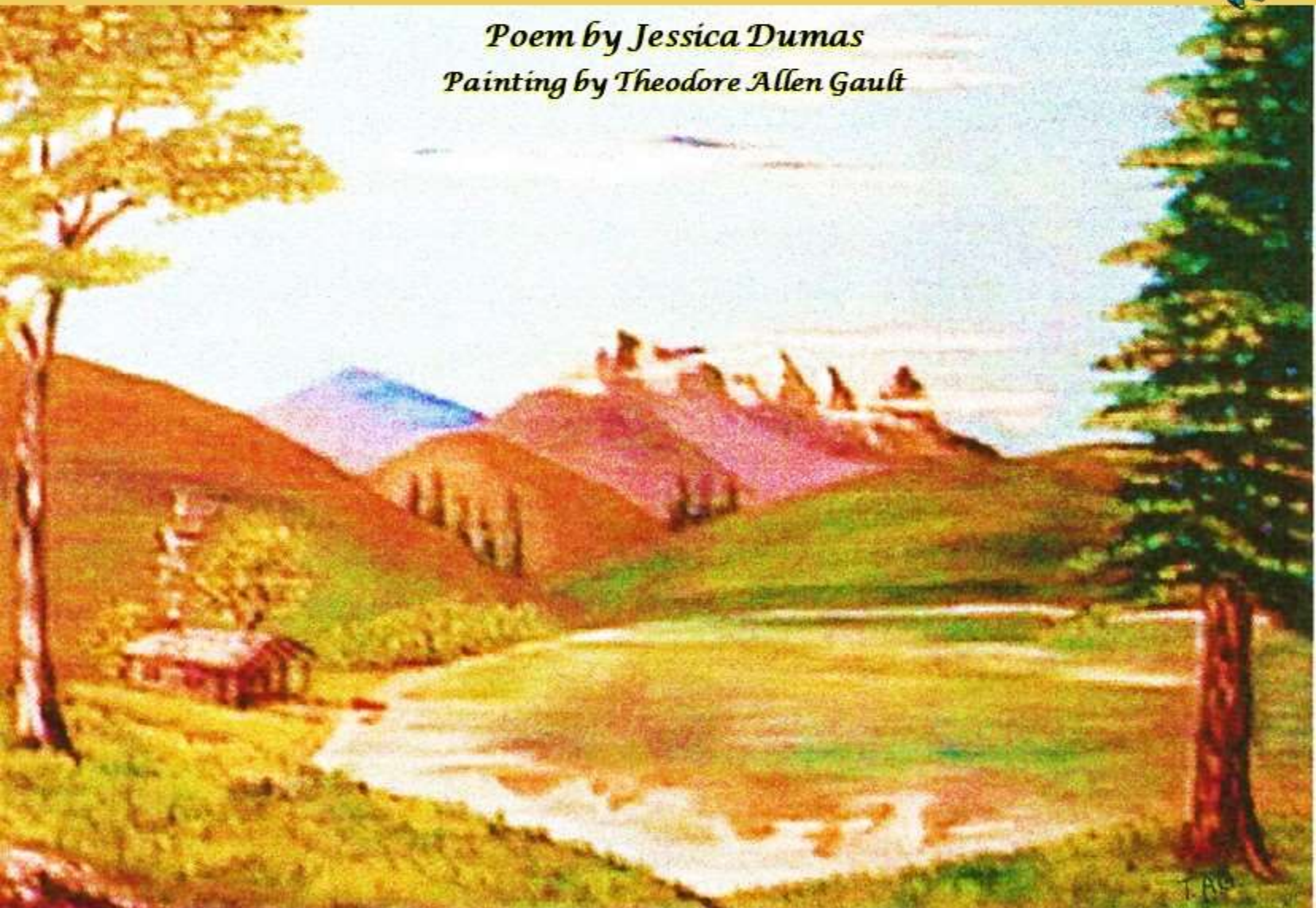


# Country Cabin

*Everyone should have a country cabin they can go to unwind  
There's something about the air and scenery that puts you at ease  
Your body has been craving to get away from the every-day grind  
You should not take all your electronics except a phone just in case  
Forget work worries as it will still be there & it's OK if you get behind  
Take a walk every day and get some badly needed sun with Vitamin Ds  
Enjoy the peace and quiet of a country cabin and to yourself be kind.*



*Poem by Jessica Dumas  
Painting by Theodore Allen Gault*



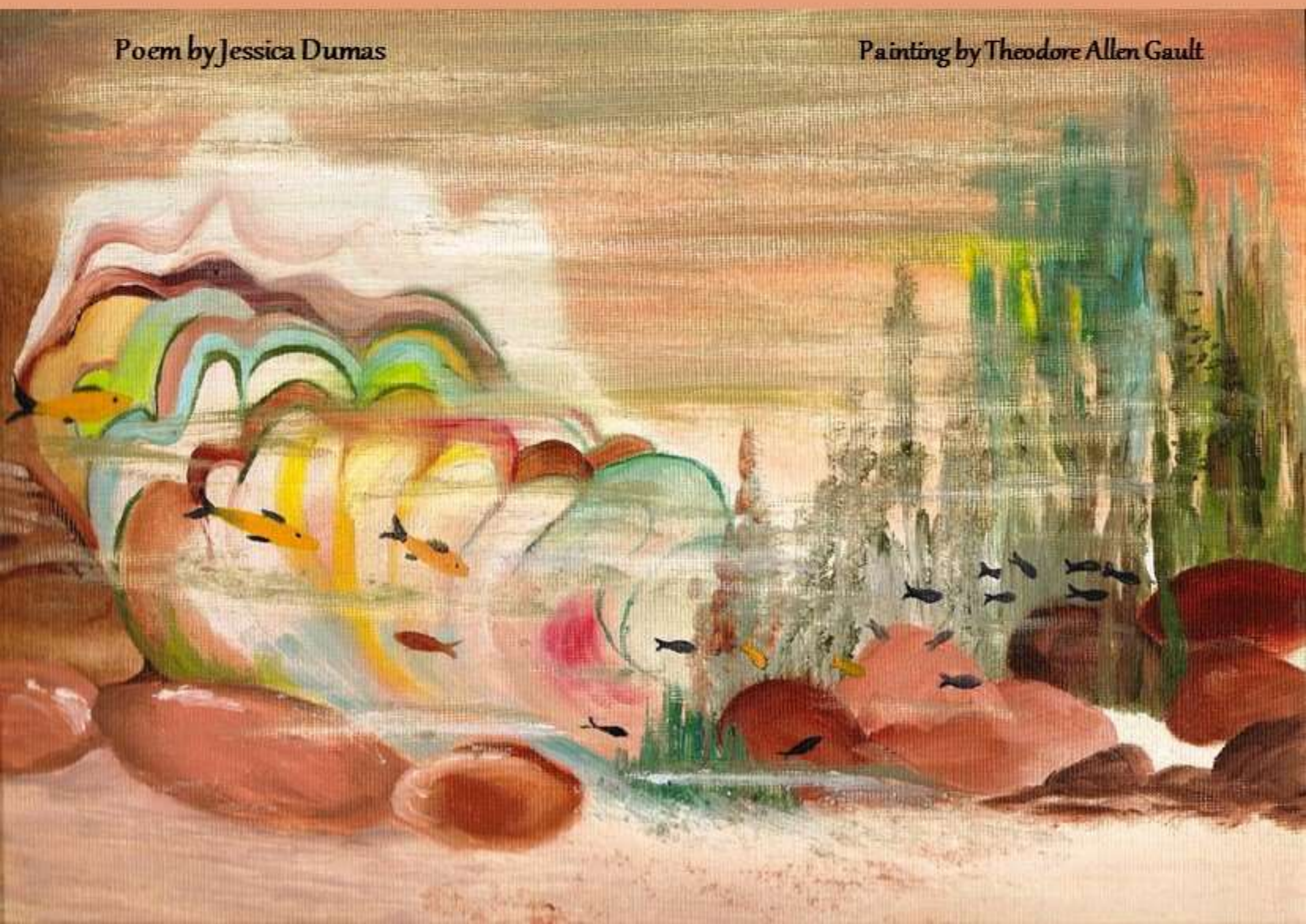


# W E T W O R L D

Some of the ugliest creations are those that live under the sea in a deep wet world  
Humans do not belong there as our body would shrivel up and we'd get eaten by fish  
If you go diving in the deep be sure to watch out for squid and octopus when uncurled  
Creatures that live at the very bottom are so alien they don't seem to be of this world  
Some will give you nightmares like the wolffish, rattail, hagfish, and faceless cusk eel  
Then there are sharks and a famous fish that has its own emoji called the blobfish  
There are ladies who would sell their husband for those sea gems that are pearled  
Aquaphobia won't allow me in deep water but you go if you like that deep wet world  
The closest to fish for me to get is having a salmon dinner or maybe a tank of goldfish.

Poem by Jessica Dumas

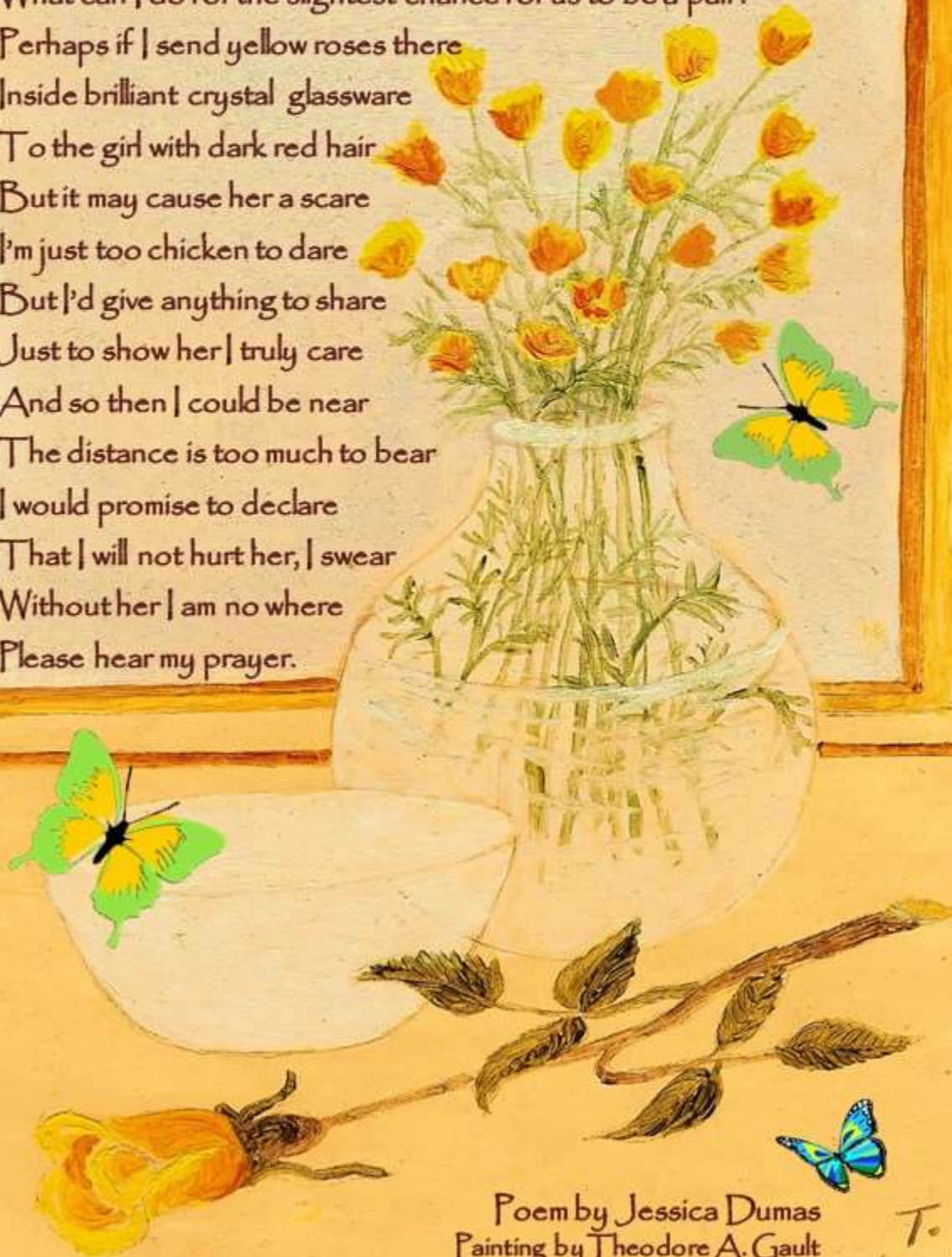
Painting by Theodore Allen Gault





# Yellow Roses

A green and gold butterfly sparkles on her lovely neck so fair  
Behind her glamour shades are piercing green eyes that stare  
As she sips her honey iced tea while sitting in an elegant chair  
Never have I known such a woman who could ever compare  
What can I do for the slightest chance for us to be a pair?  
Perhaps if I send yellow roses there  
Inside brilliant crystal glassware  
To the girl with dark red hair  
But it may cause her a scare  
I'm just too chicken to dare  
But I'd give anything to share  
Just to show her I truly care  
And so then I could be near  
The distance is too much to bear  
I would promise to declare  
That I will not hurt her, I swear  
Without her I am no where  
Please hear my prayer.



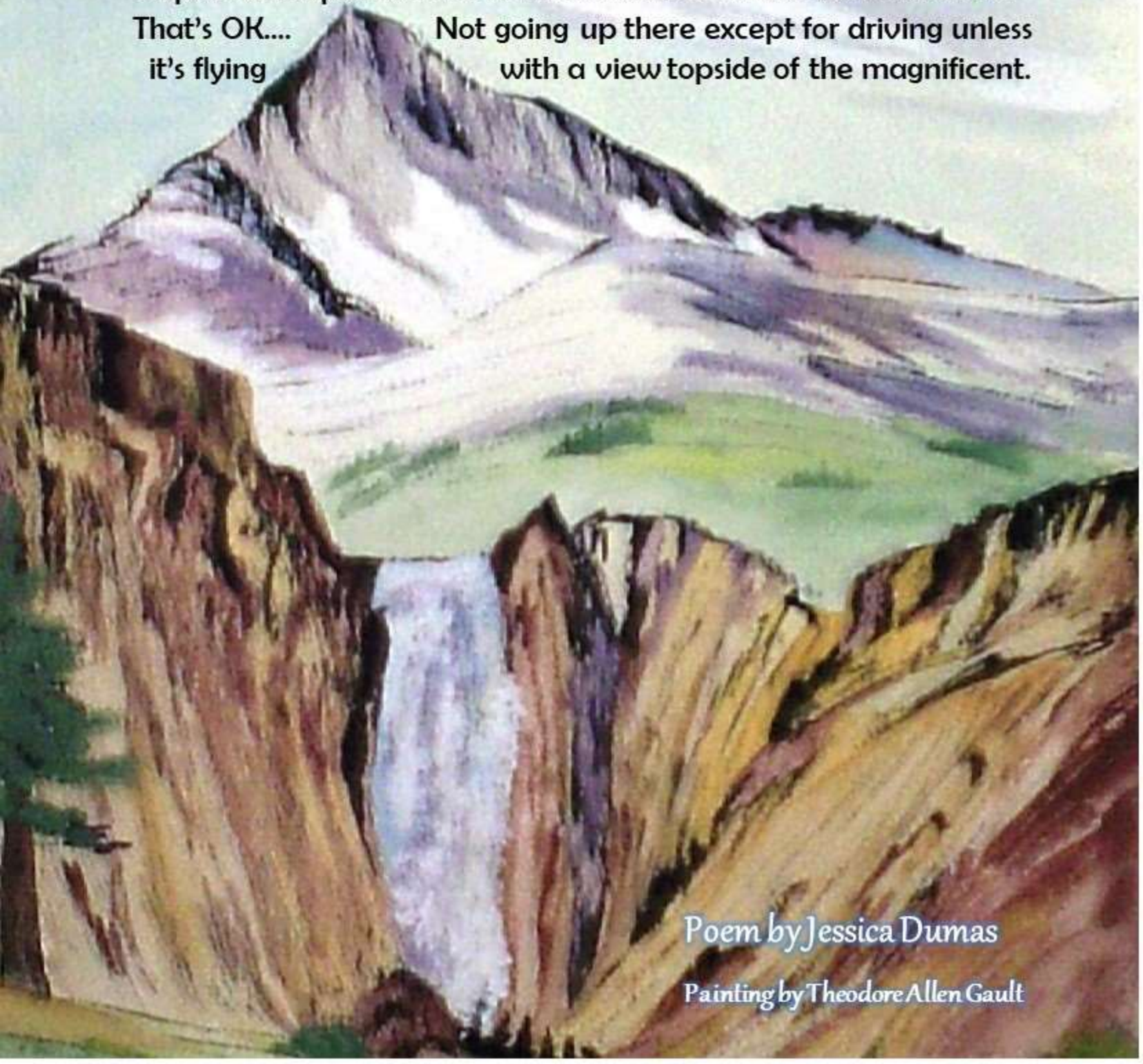
Poem by Jessica Dumas  
Painting by Theodore A. Gault

T.A.G.



# *Magnificent Mountains*

What is it about mountains that make them so magnificent?  
One thing is their size that can be thousands of feet above us.  
Their beauty also makes our eyes take notice of how pleasant.  
Besides oceans, they're the largest natural wonder for us to discuss.  
That must be why so many want to be brave and set out to ascend.  
Mount Everest is only the 10<sup>th</sup> deadliest but has a total of 300 bodies.  
Nepal's Annapurna is the deadliest with 32% that don't descend.  
That's OK.... Not going up there except for driving unless  
it's flying with a view topside of the magnificent.



Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore Allen Gault



# Springtime

Many are the plants sprouting from the April rain and dew  
Blossoms of Spring are springing forth in every color and hue  
Bright are the butterfly milkweed and blanket flowers to name a few  
Fragrance of the Queen Ann's lace reminds you of carrots in a stew  
Mountain drafts blow up pollen into clouds for a breathless atchew  
The various scents are awesome if only they didn't make me blue  
Living on allergy meds is little help and only gets a feeling of the flu  
Enjoying the sight of Spring flowers helps me manage to get through  
For the Springtime brings the delight of everything beginning anew!

Poem by Jessica Dumas



Painting by Theodore Allen Gault





# Beneficial Birch

The birch tree is deciduous, so it has leaves and loses them after turning yellow/gold/orange in the Fall.

With 60 species they grow anywhere it gets cool or cold with sun and moist soil growing from 40 to 80 feet tall.

They are famous for their bark that comes in white, grey, yellow, silver, or black and living up to 200 years in all.

You can tell their age as older ones have deep ridges like our wrinkles and young ones are smooth as a doll.

20% of hay fever comes from birch releasing its pollen.

It makes great firewood as it burns dry or wet very well.

Native Americans strip it for homes, canoes, and bowls.

You can drain sap to make syrup for pancakes and waffles.

Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore A. Gault

T.A.G.



# ARIZONA GOLD

Wandering the Arizona hills are streams with gold  
But seeking a fortune will take until you're old  
Tiny gold pieces are in many an Arizona stream  
But do not be fooled as it is not like it may seem  
It'll take many hours to examine and pan stone  
You may be too far from a signal for a phone  
Great if you're blessed with lots of time to spare  
Secrecy is necessary or you may need to share  
Take your time sifting through many a pebble  
If you enjoy camping it won't be so much trouble  
Stake claims at \$100/mo/claim in Black Canyon City  
But if you don't find any gold don't expect any pity  
Keep searching land & streams as you just may find  
enough to be able to leave the Phoenix grind.

Poem by Jessica Dumas

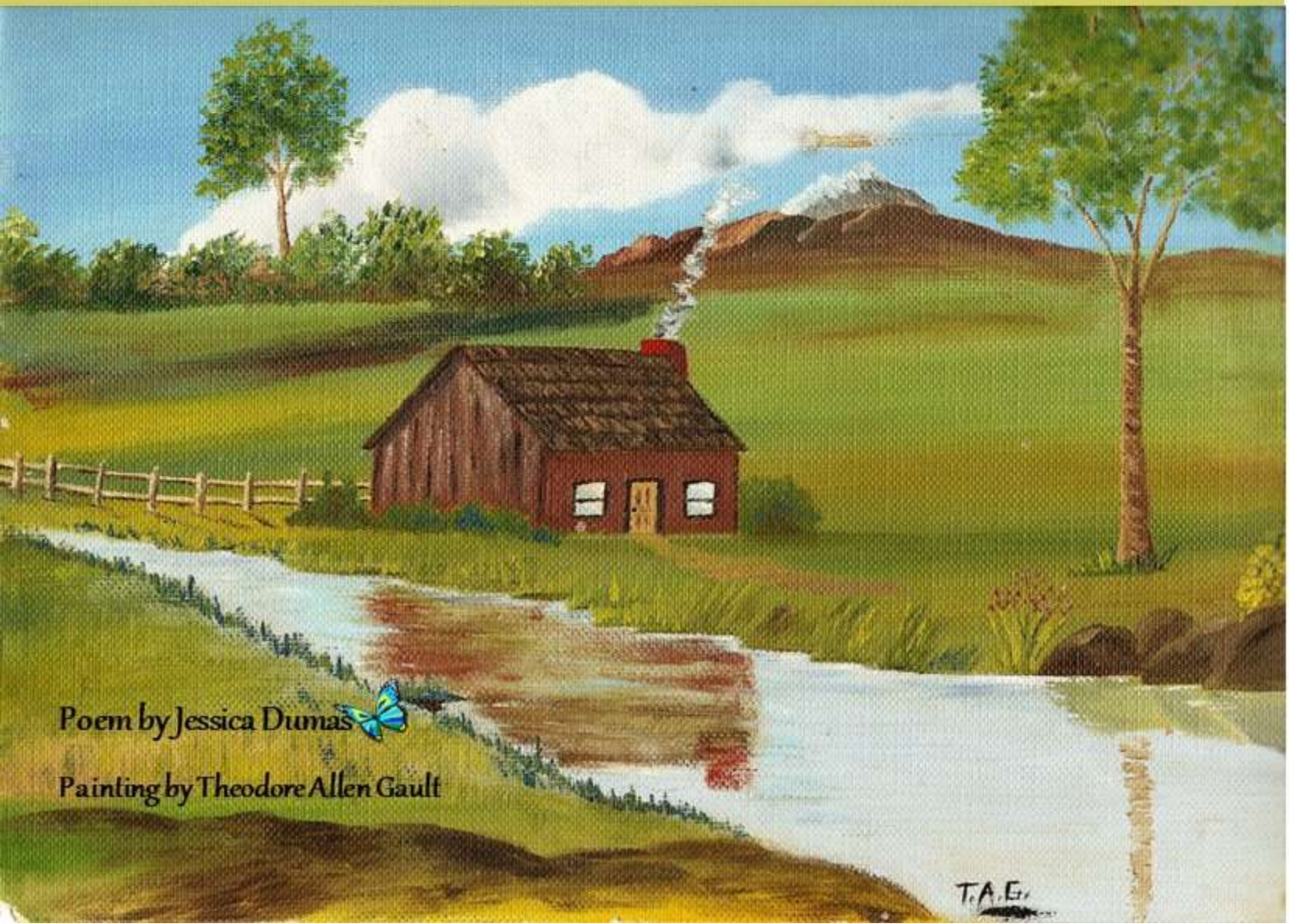
Painting by Theodore Allen Gault





# Reflections of Home

Why is it they say you can never go home?  
Perhaps just because it will never be the same  
Keeping the reflections of home can be a comfort  
Whenever you're feeling down just pull them out  
Savored reflections will be kept in your memory  
They will stay a long time and not be temporary  
Even dementia patients have some home reflections  
If not, help them and you will receive gifts of affections.



Poem by Jessica Dumas

Painting by Theodore Allen Gault

T.A.G.



# Waterfall in the Fall

When water falls in Fall  
is it a waterfall?

Is it a Fall waterfall or  
a waterfall in the Fall?

What if in the Fall, the  
waterfall fails to fall?

Yes, it's a waterfall in the Fall.

And it's a waterfall even if it does not fall in Fall.

As the melting snow will make it continue to fall.

Poem by  
Jessica Dumas



Painting by  
Theodore Allen Gault



**THIS IS THE END OF PART 1 – PLEASE GO TO  
PART 2 FOR MORE POEMS.**

**THANKS FOR READING!**

