



HAIKUFF-DA!

POETRY CONTEST

2020



MIDSOMMER

Lori Ann Reinhall - Judge

**Under my pillow
Seven flowers picked at night
Midsommer dreaming**

*Rebecca Anspach
Saint Paul, MN*

**Midsummer night fire
Rings out the dance in us all
Bewitching our souls.**

*Lana Christopher Rankin
Caldwell, ID*

**Dance around and sing
A silly little frog song
Celebrate the sun.**

*Hannah Sprague
Mounds View, MN*

The sun never sets
Bonfires light the beaches
Solstice of Norway

Natalie Olsen

My fires defy
A shield against all darkness
Lo! Too bright to sleep

*Susie Helms-Woodall
Roswell, GA*

Midsommer, SF
Is never hot weather here
'Tis clouds and foggy!

Mrs. Adrian Anderson King

Celebrate solstice
In true Norwegian style
Bonfire party

*Norman Dalthorp
Seattle, WA*

Spring into summer
With bonfires, eats, and best
friends

Let's do it again

*Dick Kellor
Chaska, MN*

Bonfires light the sky
Winter darkness disappears
It's Midsommer's Eve!

*Mary Olson Schlink
Honolulu, HI*

Creeping up to bed
Where is my eyeshade sleep mask?
Dat sun just don't quit

*Judy Bjorndal
Austin, MN*

Mosquitos biting
Swimming dancing yachting all
Saint Hans aften fire

*Gill Holland
Davidson, NC*

Midsommer in June
Herring and boiled potatoes
Full days and short nights

*Rae Hood
Acton, CA*

Sniffs to the high sun
Here come the pagans, he barks
Sven's guard is a dog

Doug Mattson
Albuquerque, NM

Hei Sankthansaften
Bonfires spark the countryside
New life, midtsommer

Siri Lise Doub
Owings Mills, MD

Mid Sommer day fun
Dancing around the may pole
Smiles from young and old

Gladys Johnson
Richfield, MN

Warm and wet summer
Cardinals red with love watched
Rich felicity.

John Powers

Celebrating life.
Dance, eat, spend time around, with
Pleasant, Nordic friends.

Rachel Blomquist

Herring, potatoes
with cold cucumber salad,
we dine with the gods.

Noel Julnes-Dehner
Cincinnati, OH

The sun brightly shines
The clear water rushes by
Sunset on the fjords

Jacob Doub

The scarlet button
On the white dress twirling
A Misommer dance

Virginie Olson

It is bittersweet
The joy of the longest day
Darkness is coming.

Virginia Sattler-Reimer
Saint Paul, MN

A chance for Spring hikes
Nature brings a grin on quick
Never sad outside

Amanda Pommerening
Brainerd, MN

June twentieth, aaah!
Withstood so much cold and dark.
Days now get shorter.

Jennifer Strand
Albuquerque, NM

Happy Midsommer!
I sanitized the maypole
After you touched it.

Elizabeth Booman
Beaufort, SC

Midsommer hot dish
I possibly overdosed
Cream of mushroom soup

Cathie Solomonson
Troutman, NC

Winter, it will come
But tonight the sun shines bright
We'll sleep when we're dead

Emily Sundseth
Saint Paul, MN

Sun shines on bonfire
Glowing beaches, boat-filled fjords,
Koselig moments

Astri Doub
Owing Mills, MD

Minnehaha park
Svenskarnas Dag with mormor
love those memories

Nancy Snyder
Boise, ID

On Summer Solstice
Old Vikings partied hardy
New Vikings still do

Glenn Anderson
St. Petersburg, FL

Sun light Deep night blue
Moon light Fire light barefoot You
Star light All Night Whew!

Barbara Dykema

Midsommer Party
To Honor the midnight sun
Bonfires all around

Michael Anderson
Plymouth, MN

Midsommer birthday
Daylight revels all the night
Bonfire on the shore

Rebecca Kruse
Inver Grove Heights, MN

Warm Midsommer's eve
Bikes roll gently on the trail
Contentment is here

Eric Olson
New York, NY

Dancers young and old
Weaving through fields of flowers
In bright solstice sun.

Edi Thorstensson
St. Peter, MN

A sweet long light night
Twinflower under pillow
Lena dreams of Lars

James Carlson
Arlington, MN

Midnight sun in June
The coastline filled with bonfires
Romance in the air

Tone Olsen

Midnattsol, burning
Embers in the wind alight
To grace wakened earth

Amy Cox
Appleton, WI

Soak up midnight sun
For shorter days nip its heels
Bittersweet solstice

Melisa Goss
Sioux Falls, SD

Some years Midsomer
And Juneteenth can co-occur.
But, not this summer.

Stefanie Levi
Minneapolis, MN

June brings midsummer
Daylight shines for a long time
Sweets eaten all day

Marie Wiegert
Minneapolis, MN

The Maypole beckons...
With crowns of garlands, come sing!
Dancing like small frogs.

Lynn Carlson
Great Barrington, MA

The long summer light
Sea beneath quiet and warm
Paddling together

Maria Lehtinen
New York, NY

We will celebrate.
Dancing, feasting, happiness.
Darkness is coming.

Elise Hickey
Lennox, SD

Scandinavians
Frolic on Midsommar Day
Virus never sleeps

Carol Alberts
Plymouth, MN

Set the ship to fjord
Let's build a big fire too then
Where is that brennvin?

Lee Bjorndal
Austin, MN

Ice and snow vanish
High temperatures are here
Horrific sunburn

Shoneen Wagner
Melbourne, FL

Midsommer in shorts
No mock wedding or bunads
But flowers and dreams

Helen Scherer
Shawnee, KS

What season is this
Weather to change in minutes
Scandinavia

Les Pedersen
Canton, MI

Birds are flying by
From my window trees turn green
Spring escaping me

Carol Hegre
Edina, MN

Good little fires preen
Mirroring their mother sun
Speckled stars of earth

Teresa Tjepkes
Minneapolis, MN

For goodness sake,
All winter, we wait for this!
Enjoy the sunshine!

Valerie J Laidlaw

Da Sun rides up high
Wit yer white skin turnin' red
Da Midsommer comes.

Terry Kennedy-Lares
Hastings, MN

After long dark Scandinavian
winter
Celebrating the summer Solstice
and daylight hours
Fires, song, Midsommer pole
dancing

Nancy Sand Olson
Maple Grove, MN

The mosquito sucks
All the blood from my body
Slap now he is dead
Is this what you wanted?

Knut

Bonfire, gasoline.
What could go wrong? Just in case
Keep the hose handy.

John Ofstehage
Greenwood, MN

Dancing at midnight
Around the blazing bonfire
Morning hangover.

Tom Lund
Roseville, MN

The dill sprig scatters
On creamy plates and bowls
As the Golden Hour lingers

Peri Stone-Palmquist
Ypsilanti, MI

During Midsommer
Minnesota mosquitos
Will have a picnic

Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld
Holmen, WI

Maypoles, garlands, games,
The Midnight Sun shines brightly
Midsommer has come!

Patricia Chrismer
Baltimore, MD

Maypole circle 'round
To the Nyckelharpa tune
Welcome summer now

Karen L. Riley
Tualatin, OR

Joy! Wild strawberries!
Midsommar is here at last!
Too bad there's a plague

Lindsey Hanson

When the sun is bright
Nordic flowers bloom brightest
Most light of the year

Annie Carpenter
Minneapolis, MN

Children frolic late
Lightning bugs and stars compete
To announce bedtime

Jane Stilling
Capitola, CA

Bonfires and weddings
Odd way to celebrate solstice
Not like the movie

Chris S.

Four times Finland, friends.
Slopes at Midsommer - boulders.
Ice, hearts melt; time freezes."

Richard A. Peik
Minneapolis, MN

How strange the light glows
At three AM--do I get up
Or ease into day?

Mark and Dori Reinhalter

Midsummer flies by.
Winter comes and goes away.
Gruel needs no season.

Jim Heskin
Duluth, MN

Flickering bonfire
Around we dance, holding hands
Wearing flower crowns

Astrid Sara
Maple Ridge, British Columbia

Maypole raised by hand
Folk costumes and dancing
No bedtime tonight

Joyce Hoffer
Lyndhurst, OH

Midsommer ... red barn,
Ole watches birds take wing,
Sven slides off the roof.

Grant Fjermedal

The crawfish are here
The kettle is boiling fast
My mouth is waiting

Anna Sime

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS & FOOD

Gary Legwold - Judge

**Herring in the brine
Soda cracker waits alone
Twist open the jar**

Doug Mattson
Albuquerque, NM

**The senses open.
What is that heavenly scent?
Fresh lefse is served.**

Elise Hickey
Lennox, SD

**Small town newspapers
bear church julefest calls to
love thy lutefisk.**

Edith Thorstensson
St. Peter, MN

Lutefisk, lefse
Potatoes and rice pudding
A beautiful plate

Anna Sime

Me, under the tree,
Gazing up, cookie in hand,
Hypnotized by lights.

Kris Salkil

New snow on the ground
Seven kinds of cookies baked
Now it is Christmas

Norman Dalthorp
Seattle, WA

Boil, Fry or Mash
I am sick of potatoes!
But more Lefse please

Susie Helms-Woodall
Roswell, GA

I just discovered
I have Nordic ancestry
Now I'll say "God Jul!"

Patricia Chrismer
Baltimore, MD

Pass the lutefisk
Lena, I don't have to go,
Okay, then hold it.

Dick Kellor
Chaska, MN

It's Christmas morning
Time to open our presents?
Nope, did it last night

Emily Sundseth
Saint Paul, MN

Thor heats mulled wine gløgg
Kicksleds park by open door
Julebukk warming

Helen Scherer
Shawnee, KS

Lefse, rice pudding,
Lutefisk and krumkake,
Julaften favorites.

Tom Lund
Roseville, MN

Juleboking fun
Makes the Christmas more jolly
and pepperkakker to eat

Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld
Holmen, WI

Quarantined at home
Eating lefse, krumkake
Now belly is big.

Susan Manley
Maywood, CA

Saffron and raisins
Curly buns and candle crowns
Sankta Lucia

Rebecca Anspach
Saint Paul, MN

Lefse yummy good
Sweet and savory Lefse
Fresh warm Lefse good

Lutefisk smelly
Some people like lutefisk
I do not it's gross

Catherine

We always loved
Rommegrot on Christmas Eve!
So buttery sweet!

Valerie J Laidlaw

Cold, dark all the time
Tomte and Lucia laugh
Dala stands so still

C. Farrell
Pittsboro, NC

Family time
Lutefisk was served
I am alone.

Leona Rowe

The lefse is warm
Lingonberries and sugar
Nordic hearts so full

Annie Carpenter
Minneapolis, MN

Come Julenisse
Eat Pinnekjott and Ribbe
Leave out lutefisk

Chris S.

Sundry hurt in haste
for the first place at table:
Lutefisk tonight

Jim Heskin
Duluth, MN

Anticipation!
Julenissen is coming
Keen younsters await

Astrid Sara
Maple Ridge, BC Canada

Christmas feast includes
Lefse but no lutefisk,
Fruit soup, korv and sweets.

Linda Laughton
Bloomington, MN

Frosted blue windows,
Candles glow near scented pine,
Meatball, salmon feast.

Laurie Martell
Tucson, AZ

Swedish rice pudding
Decadent creamy berries
Stirring worth the time

Terri Garske
Fargo, ND

As the Jule season approaches
Preparing, baking lefse and
Krumkake brings me
Closer to my Norwegian heritage

Nancy Sand Olson
Maple Grove, MN

Cardamom, ginger,
Cloves, spices, such an aroma
Jul--a baker's joy!

Mark and Dori Reinhalter

Christmas dinner plate.
Polar bear in a snow storm?
Cod and potatoes?

John Ofstehage
Greenwood, MN

Napkins are all gone.
So many messes today!
Pass a lefse please.

Dale Schott
Reinfeld, MB Canada

Gifts beneath the tree
Straw stars do not glitter
Gingerbread is mine

Joyce Hoffer
Lyndhurst, OH

Coffee in a mug
Lutefisk jiggles on plate
I want more lefse

Erica Dungan
Bozeman, MT

Uff-da what's that smell?
Pinnekjot! Christmas! Mouth barf.
Lutefisk, butter

Carol Bjornestad
Lone Tree, CO

Lutefisk Santa
laughs like bowl full of jelly.
A little white lye.

Grant Fjermedal
Shoreline, WA

Butter sugar knife
Lefse cooking on the stove
Getting fat at home

Carol Hegre
Edina, MN

Both countries cried fowl.
U.N. had to intervene.
Lutefisk sushi????!!!

Shelley Butchart

Christmas lutefisk
Elation for the elders
Kids refuse to eat

Shoneen Wagner
Melbourne, FL

Fish bollers and balls
All the Norwegian things
Der vil han har hus

Andrew Ludvigsen

By the Christmas tree
Fiskeboller for Santa Claus
Reindeer fly tonight

Lenore Gussin

A Norwegian treat
Fishballs, fishcakes and lutefisk
Glad tidings for all

Diane Ludvigsen
Breezy Point, NY

Nordics' Christmas food
Bland lutefisk and lefse
Diversity rare

Rennae Daneshvary
Melbourne, FL

Luck for the New Year
Hidden in the rommegrot
Who found the almond?

Mary Olson Schlink
Honolulu, HI

Sleigh ride through the snow
Dance round tree of candles flags
Skaal kransekake

Siri Holland
Davidson, NC

Better not to know
Blodklub at the Legion Hall
Barley, suet, blood

Judy Bjorndal
Austin, MN

Fruit soup cold and dark
Lutefisk smell in my heart
Pass the Lefse please

Liz Esse Kahrs
Scituate, MA

No lefse, No Jul
No tradition more sacred
Lefse Sticks Ready! Norskes!

Thomas Martin
Arlington, TX

Lutefisk, a food?
You lye if you make it, and
You lie if you like it.

Brent C. Weiser
Fargo, ND

Firklover wrappers
Crinkle in bunad pockets.
Marzipan pig waits.

Jade Hidle
Long Beach, CA

Santa Lucia
Shining head wreaths all aglow
Baked Lussekatter

Rae Hood
Acton, CA

Jul fire burns brightly,
Tomte watches silently,
Anticipation.

Katherine Stewart
Eugene, OR

Naughty gnomes, nisses;
Fraudulent frolicsome friends,
Crunch Christmas Krumkakes!

Lana Christopher Rankin
Caldwell, ID

Swedes like all white food
Lutefisk and much more
Swedish pancakes too

Gladys Johnson
Richfield, MN

Lutefisk or Glögg
Uff-da what a choice that is
Maybe I'll just have both

Jennifer Sue Oatey
Lexington, KY

Aquavit at Jule.
Skol with Bestemor's wee cups.
Warmth for the New Year.

Susan Flaatt Cooper
Colorado Springs, CO

Starry sleigh rides. Joy!
Ice drips from pine trees. Night sky.
Julenissen rings.

Siri Lise Doub
Owings mills, MD

It's the Holidays
Everyone's favorite treats
The plate is too small.

Virginia Sattler-Reimer
Saint Paul, MN

Hot fire crackling
At the window a frost bead
My lefse sizzling

Virginie Olson

The nut is hidden
'Neath Risengryns creamy rice
Who will get the prize?

Rachel Blomquist

Tasks for the youngest
Grind the walnuts, sugar dough,
Steal the mixing spoon

Teresa Tjepkes
Minneapolis, MN

Potetball is fine
The cod's tongue is yust divine
What's wrong with sørkål?

Lee Bjorndal
Austin, MN

Tangy, creamy, ost
My heart is a waffle shape
The taste lasts all year

Amanda Pommerening
Brainerd, MN

Potetball again?
And with extra sour milk!?
Good lord in himmel!

Peter Bjorndal
Saint Paul, MN

each year they argue
does sugar go on lefse
not on mine I say

heat up the griddle
potatoes mashed, cream is fresh
roll the lease thin

Cheryl Carlson Schaeffle
Fargo, ND

Lefse is a treat
Lingonberry spread on it
For Christmas, we eat!

Carly Engels Johnston

December Julbord
Meatballs with lingonberries
But no lutefisk

Carol Alberts
Plymouth, MN

Lefse, lutefisk.
Rutebagas, potatoes.
Butter or cream sauce?

Jennifer Strand
Albuquerque, NM

Pine twigs and candles
Scent of cardamom and cloves
Tomten says God Jul

Anne Olson Martin
McLean, VA

I was a new bride
My husband made me lefse
Of course I love him!

Jane Erickson
Wild Rose, WI

Yes, I made lefsa!
It's white and thin and it looks
Like toilet paper.

Elizabeth Booman
Beaufort, SC

I can not do it
Box up the Jul troll figure
Grampa's tiny twin

Cathie Solomonson
Troutman, NC

Lutefisk, Lefse,
Potatoes, Rye Bread, Kaffe
Krumkake? You Bet!

Kathleen Moe
San Jose, CA

One knit capped tomten
Wee prankster seeking porridge
Bringing me good luck

Valerie Carlson Furey

Julenissen brings
more than gifts: warm meals, shining
trees, a shield from cold

Astri Doub
Owings Mills, MD

Lingon on meatballs
Pickled herring and Gravlox
Hold the Lutefisk

Glenn Anderson
St. Petersburg, FL

The Tomen is near
Dark and deep cold has settled
Ensuring our warmth

Nancy Snyder
Boise, ID

Smoked fish, Candlelight,
Moonlit ski and starry night
Skol! To us tonight

Barbara Dykema

Lutefisk lefsa
Meatballs gravy potatoes
Goat cheese herring YUM!

Vicki Klaers
Elk River, MN

Krumkake crumbles
Kringle drizzled with icing
I found the almond!

Michael Anderson
Plymouth, MN

Come Jul Danes wonder
Are the aebleskivers done
Or runny inside

Rebecca Kruse
Inver Grove Heights, MN

A brood of cousins
Around the lefse grill swarm
SWOOP! First piece is mine!

Melisa Goss
Sioux Falls, SD

God jul far and wide
St. Nick comes one night early
to fill us with joy.

Hannah Sprague
Mounds View, MN

Lutefisk dinner
white potatoes, white cream sauce
Please bring me meatballs!

Sharon Steller
San Jose, CA

In-laws' Julefest
A lutefisk Alfredo
Those uppity Swedes!

James Carlson
Arlington, MN

Jultrefests bring light
Christmas tastes like Julemat
Kosetid for Jul

Mona Anita Olsen
McLean, VA

Glogg by the fire,
pinnekjøtt in our bellies,
smiles all around.

Elizabeth Calio
Poughkeepsie, NY

Tiered, delicate
Iced almond rings of love
Celebratory

Sonja Olsen

Dancing around the Christmas tree
Rustling of dresses
Gleeful criss cross and twists
Brings us together

Sonja Olsen

Lutefisk tastes good
But lefse is the true treat
At Norsk Christmas feasts

Chris Kjonaas
San Diego, CA

Lutefisk, lefse,
Julekake – Værsgod!
Christmas joy once more

Eric Olson
New York, NY

Lena made komla.
"They'll love it at the church fest!"
Oops, one day too late!

Sheryl Soukup
Normal, IL

Christmas Eve meatballs,
Pepperkakor, rye bread, sil.
Mormor's recipes.

Lynn Carlson
Great Barrington, MA

Lefse time is here
Time to get out the griddle
Flour is everywhere

Joy Danielson
Lake Elmo, MN

Fattigman and brus
Waiting to be tasted soon
Oh the joy of Jul

Tone Olsen

Krumkake irons
Toasting crisp cardamom scrolls
Singing fingertips

Judith Hanson
Huntsville, AL

Spread butter and roll.
Add sugar? Add cinnamon?
Oh, such blasphemy.

Jennifer Strand
Albuquerque, NM

OLE AND LENA

*Ole & Lena commentary by our judges,
Ann Berg & Bruce Danielson*

**"For crying out loud".
Ole yelled before car crash.
A true Saab story.**

Dale Mattson
Bloomington, MN

*Lena said dat is a true story. Ole
said dere vas an accident, and
dere vas a little dent in da fender.
She asked him where da fender
vas, and he said, "In da trunk."*

**Lena takes a risk
In her kitchen all alone
Taking off her mask**

Carol Hegre
Edina, MN

*Ole says, "Dat's for sure! Lena can
make two tings: Swedish meatballs
and lime jello. Only problem is ve
can't tell dem apart!"*

Ole and Lena
Lena thinks it's about time
Lena and Ole

Jim Heskin
Duluth, MN

Ole tinks it might be about dat time. Lena's da only investment he's made dat's doubled in size!

Lena tells Ole
He's too weak to raise the pole
On Midsommar Dag

Carol Alberts
Plymouth, MN

Ole/Lena books
Will not earn the Nobel Prize
For Literature

Carol Alberts
Plymouth, MN

Lena says, "Maybe, but dat's because Ole hasn't colored in all of dem, yet!"

They like Decorah
But they yust can't get along
Is Thorvald involved?

Lee Bjorndal
Austin, MN

Lena says to leave Ole's brother Thorvald out of it! He's so dumb when he sits on the toilet seat he has to whistle.....so he knows which end to wipe!"

Sitting in his chair
Ole wears only his hat
In case of a knock

Peter Bjorndal
Saint Paul, MN

Ole calls Lena's
summer flat in Oslo. Then:
"Hello? Uff da, Sven!"

Brad Johnson
Delray Beach, FL

Ole says, "Sven is such a great friend, alvas volunteering to help at the cabin when I can't go!"

Ole and Lena stories galore
In this time of political correctness
alone
Humor stands test of time

Nancy Sand Olson
Maple Grove, MN

From death bed Ole
asks for pie. Lena says "dat's
for the funeral."

John Ofstehage
Greenwood, MN

Ole got a gift
Snoose, lefse, and rømmegrøt
Lena knew him well

Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld
Holmen, WI

Ole and Lena
Skied down da slippery slope
And broke all dare bones

Susan Manley
Maywood, CA

Lena and Ole said, "Yah, ven ve vas younger. Now, we break all our bones in da winter yust walking out to da car!"

Lena weaves rya
Ole spins heavy wool yarn
Sheep become dizzy

Helen Scherer
Shawnee, KS

Sadly, Ole died.
Grieving, Lena placed an ad.
"Good used boat for sale."

Tom Lund
Roseville, MN

Genealogy
Often gets complicated
Oles wed Lenas

Jane Stilling
Capitola, CA

Ole took Lena
Up da stairs, to da betroom
But vies dis joke clean?

Terry Kennedy-Lares
Hastings, MN

Lena says, "It is at Ole's age."

Ole and Lena:
Vat da heck you do dat for?
Vell, I yust don't know!

Astrid Sara
Maple Ridge, BC Canada

Ole and Lena
Norwegian spring, ever new.
Laughter's gift. Sven, too.

Grant Fjermedal

Ole and Lena—
Ethnic self-flagellation
Or innocent mirth?!

Stefanie Levi
Minneapolis, MN

"Vant a beer, Ole?"
"Nei, Lena says der killers"
"I don't understand?"

"Vell, it's not only
da southern beer makes you sick.
She says it all does."

"I don't understand?"
"Ya know, Corona-virus"
"Dat vould make me mad!"

"Vell, ja, it does but
I've got ways to make her mad."
"Ja? How ya do dat?"

"Ven she vants a smootch
I put on my darn mask and
socially distance."

Amy Cox
Appleton, WI

Married fifty years
Ole and Lena moved house
'Twas a big uff-da

Eric Olson
New York, NY

Grandpa made me laugh
with Ole and Lena jokes
Memories live on

Chris Kjonaas
San Diego, CA

Lovers in garden
Could not resist Honeycrisp.
Ole blames Lena

James Carlson
Arlington, MN

*Ole says, "An apple a day keeps
the doctor away. Lena's cooking
keeps EVERYONE away!"*

Without the accents
Of dat ol' Norske couple
Is it really a joke?

Melisa Goss
Sioux Falls, SD

Lena wakes Ole
"Oh Sven, you was marvelous"
"Helga, I ain't Sven"

Rebecca Kruse
Inver Grove Heights, MN

Lena left Ole
And ja, she left the chickens
So the yolks on him

Michael Anderson
Plymouth, MN

Ole and Lena
making fun of immigrants
never liked those jokes

Nancy Snyder
Boise, ID

*Ole says, "You don't like immigrant
jokes? I don't like dose 'Ole died'
jokes. Uffda!"*

Ole loved Lena
Not a match made in heaven
Lena loved Swen

Glenn Anderson
St. Petersburg, FL

Ole passed away
Then searched heav'n for his Lena
But she'd gone to hell

Ruth Younger
Chico, CA

Lena tries out 'Zoom'.
"Am I doing it right?" she asks.
"I don't feel faster!"

Elizabeth Booman
Beaufort, SC

Ole snored awful
Scary thoughts came to Lena
CPAP saved his hide

Cathie Solomonson
Troutman, NC

*Lena says dat if you can't stop
a man from snoring, you're not
pushing hard enough on the pillow!*

Two peas in a pod
With a love never ending
Humorous reprise

Barb Gardner
Minneapolis, MN

Ole and Lena
Laughter is good medicine
Take it for your health

Rae Hood
Acton, CA

*Yup, and Ole and Lena have been
laughing at demselves for years!*

Ole once divulged:
"Lena, I love you so much
I almost told you."

Amy Larson
Elk River, MN

*Lena says, "I told Ole to say
something nice to me – like 'Pass
da honey, honey!' So, he said,
'Pass da tea, bag!'"*

Ole gets Netflix
Der's one on dream homes, Lena
Indoor outhouses!

Doug Mattson
Albuquerque, NM

*Lena says, "Ole carpeted our
bathroom last summer. Turned out
so nice this summer I vant him to
carpet all da vay up to da house.*

When courting Lena,
Ole served her lutefisk.
Lena now dates Lars.

Gary Gillund
Saint Joseph, MN

Cat crying in the tree
Lena waiting patiently
Ladder on the ground

Virginie Olson

Reserved Norwegians
Dumb Ole and Lena jokes
Silent chuckles heard

Rennae Daneshvary
Melbourne, FL

Freezing winter nights
Lena suggests snuggling
Ole gets blankets

Shoneen Wagner
Melbourne, FL

*Lena says dats yust like her Ole.
One night she told him she wanted
to be held close; he got her a
girdle!*

Wed in my bunad
I and Ole had such hopes
Now we're just a joke

Judy Bjorndal
Austin, MN

Lena bakes the cookies
Ole loves to feed the birds
Where's the fattigman?

Mary Olson
SchHonolulu, HI

Come here Ole-o
Call in the cows to milk then
churn the margarine

Susie Helms-Woodall
Roswell, GA

Ole's unhappy with
Lena's Caesarean birth
Wants a Nordic child

Patricia Chrismer
Baltimore, MD

*Lena says, "I told Ole dat
Caesarean is still Scandinavian!
It's next to Denmark, don't ya
know!"*

Ole says to Lena
I love you more than lefse,
Uff-da, maybe not.

Dick Kellor
Chaska, MN

Ole and Lena
Ya, sure, two Swedes we laugh at
Not the sharpest knives.

Thomas Martin
Arlington, TX

Some lack intellect
Some will find humor in that
We all have our flaws

Emily Sundseth
Saint Paul, MN

Ole and Lena
Went to dinner together
Uff da, lutefisk!

Jim Dietz-Kilen

Ole asks Lena
Do signals on trailer work?
Says, "Yes, no, yes, no".

Brent C. Weiser
 Fargo, ND

Vont you vear a mask ?
Not for Halloween my dear
Corona virus

Norman Dalthorp
Seattle, WA

*Ole says Lena's sister Ingeborg
doesn't need a mask – her face
will scare da virus away. She
once entered an ugly contest,
and they wrote back, "Sorry, no
professionals."*

Ole told Lena
as she cooked dinner one night
"I don't deserve this."

Brian Beatty

*Ole says de don't haf a dinner
bell at dere house. Dey yust use
the smoke detector!*

Ole asked Lena
during a fit of passion
"Did I vake you, dear?"

Brian Beatty

Sven liked Lena best
Lena is the smartest one
Sven's just ignorant

Doug Myhre
Eden Prairie, MN

Uff da yes or no
It's tough to be Norwegian
Ole and Lena....

Ginny Anderson

She used'ta love Sven.
Before Ole called her
"Sweetheart!"
Lena loved Ole, den.

Valerie J Laidlaw

Lena, want to date?
Could think of worse things, Ole.
Might even be fun...

Gail Dent

Ole and Lena
shall Winter in Decorah
being retired.

Virginia Sattler-Reimer
Saint Paul, MN

Ole asked Lena
Do you get da jokes dey tell?
Ja, neider do I

Nancy Terjesen
Venice, FL

NORDICS & SOCIAL DISTANCING

Max Stevenson - Judge

**The extroverted
Norwegian stared at my shoes.
I stared at them too**

John Otstehage
Greenwood, MN

**mountains now our friends
where trees cease to
cloudberrries
we return to earth**

Astri Doub
Owings Mill, MD

**Sven and Ole ja
Porch sitting twelve feet apart
Cuz ya never know**

Eric Olson
New York, NY

You stand over there
I will stay way over here
Waiting for the bus

Norman Dalthorp
Seattle, WA

A chance for Spring hikes
Nature brings a grin on quick
Never sad outside

Amanda Pommerening
Brainerd, MN

Stay 6 feet apart
That seems a little bit close
Will do, you betcha

Jane Sullivan
Manhattan Beach, CA

Quiet protection
Separate and isolate
Respect for others

Terri Garske
Fargo, ND

I am a Norske
Healthy, Sick, please stay away
New Normal or Not

Thomas Martin
Arlington, TX

Hey you are too close!
Uff da lipstick on my mask
Kiss me anyway

Susie Helms-Woodall
Roswell, GA

Nordics cherish space.
Umbrellas, beach chairs, people
Stay away! Withdraw!

Shoneen Wagner
Melbourne, Florida

No longer must I
Go through the agony of
Hug or not to hug

Judy Bjorndal
Austin, MN

Six feet apart we
Must stay to keep the virus
Away--perfect day.

Noel Julnes-Dehner
Cincinnati, OH

Not one for close talk
Mask my Norwegian square head
Uff Da six feet please

Liz Esse Kahrs
Scituate, MA

Six feet between us,
It isn't that romantic,
Look the other way.

Dick Kellor
Chaska, MN

I told the in-laws:
"Ope, sorry! Please stay away!"
For once, an excuse.

Amy Larson
Elk River, MN

Social distancing?
Nordic introverts, see no
Differences at all.

Lana Christopher Rankin
Caldwell, ID

Social distancing
First started with lutefisk.
That stench is too close!

Susan Flaata Cooper
Colorado Springs, CO

COVID is here now
No grand gestures should be done
Just the same as before

Jennifer Sue Oatey
Lexington, KY

Though the masks are new,
Six feet apart is not too
Strange for most of us.

Maren Donley
Bothell, WA

One pepperkaka
left all alone on the plate,
Swedish distancing

Rebecca Anspach
Saint Paul, MN

Nordes have big, strong hearts.
Six feet apart is nothing.
In heart we stay close.

Rachel Blomquist

Masked, I say stay back
Six feet is not hard to hold
When unmasked, too close

Marsha Foss
Saint Paul, MN

So many shy Swedes
Introductions never come
When standing apart

Glenn Anderson
St. Petersburg, FL

Staying home for months
Happy as a full tomte
Just waiting for spring.

Hannah Sprague
Mounds View, MN

Frognerparken sun
Warm hugs turned heartfelt waving
Together apart.

Siri Lise Doub
Owings Mills, MD

You gotta like it
Directive is to “stay home”
No need now to roam

Nancy Snyder
Boise, ID

Encased in our space
Sausages that do not touch
When fried together.

Edi Thorstensson
St. Peter, MN

Attaching a mask
Always a good idea
Is tricky with horns

Anne Olson Martin
McLean, VA

Social distancing
Some fancy new expression
Should be Nordic-ing

Michael Anderson
Plymouth, MN

Shoppers in long line
“Price check on toilet paper!”
Blushes at six feet.

James Carlson
Arlington, MN

My grandma now says
They don't look like Norwegians
Vey loudly through her mask.

Jill Jameson
Cedar, MN

Governor Walz said
Nil on steaming sauna crowds
Clothes off—bathe alone

Rebecca Kruse
Inver Grove Heights, MN

Nationwide dugnad
Staying home to save more lives
Working together

Mona Anita Olsen
McLean, VA

Sit six feet apart
I have the perfect answer
My ice fishing hut

Cathie Solomonson
Troutman, NC

Stay six feet apart?!
Certainly cause for alarm.
That's clearly too close.

Melisa Goss
Sioux Falls, SD

Social distancing
Is simple, just fill your pants
With lutefisk. Uff!

Amy Cox
Appleton, WI

What's 'social distance'?
Norwegians don't understand...
Distance IS social!

Elizabeth Booman
Beaufort, SC

Norwegian husband
Born for social distancing
Quiet and content

Jane Erickson
Wild Rose, WI

Stoic we are not
We can live you from afar
Challenge accomplished.

Valerie Carlson Furey

What did Sweden do
During this year's pandemic?
Enhanced social norms!

Stefanie Levi
Minneapolis, MN

Scandinavians
Must not dance within six feet
On Midsommar Day

Carol Alberts
Plymouth, MN

Perceived cold Nordics
Unwanted hugs are the norm
Beware viruses

Rennae Daneshvary
Melbourne, FL

Six feet between us?
Those are the new rules, we're told.
We're getting closer!

Lynn Carlson
Great Barrington, MA

Hot dish made for one
The "oh sure's" and "you betcha's"
On hold for Nordics

Annie Carpenter
Minneapolis, MN

Stop by for coffee,
Sandbakkels and krumkake
Don't forget your mask.

Tom Lund
Roseville, MN

An unwelcome guest.
Socially distance they say.
The virus arrived.

Elise Hickey
Lennox, SD

So many are home
No small talk or long goodbyes
A Nordic's true glee

Annie Carpenter
Minneapolis, MN

Helsinki hollers
To Sven across the Baltic
Oslo overhears

Helen Scherer
Shawnee, KS

We miss our loved ones,
Quietly we bear the pain.
Hope and love - our shield!

Linda Haven

"Hiya" from afar
Please to keep your distance now
Six feet is too close

Sarah Riemer
Minneapolis, MN

Ahead of their time
Nordics wait at a bus stop
Social Distancing

Patricia Chrismer
Baltimore, MD

We miss "granny hugs!"
Mormor Gena hugged & kissed,
Farmor Thea, not.

Valerie J. Laidlaw

Hygge through Covid
I've found the loneliness cure
Smells of rosettes here

Ashley L. Bader
Urbandale, IA

On the lonely fjord
Far from evil CoVid's reach
Clean crisp Viking air

Karen L. Riley
Tualatin, OR

Six Feet is now correct
Nordic social distancing always
was a trend
Nordics ahead of the curve

Nancy Sand Olson
Maple Grove, MN

Sailing on sea ice
Grandpa floated in the fog
"Six feet is nothing!"

Peter Bjorndal
Saint Paul, MN

Waft of lutefisk
Scandinavians invent
Social distancing

Karen L. Riley
Tualatin, OR

Nordics go eight feet
That is nothing new for them
But the men can't cook

Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld
Holmen, WI

Da Covid is here
No Viking can come near me
Yust blow me a kiss

Susan Manley
Maywood, CA

Meters far from you
Masks on both our faces
Herregud! it's farfar

Joyce Hoffer
Lyndhurst, OH

Uffda, back away!
Too close to me? You betcha
Time for a nice hike

Chris S.

Like ski mask season
We recognize each other
By twinkles in eyes

Jane Stillinger
Capitola, CA

Nordics, tough climate
Excel at social distancing
A reticent bunch.

Mark and Dori Reinhalter

Inside and outside
a Norwegian custom
Delmer's got the jug

Jim Heskin
Duluth, MN

In nature's safe hands
The mountain cabin beckons
Isolate yourself!

Astrid Sara
Maple Ridge, British Columbia

I am Svensk and Norsk.
To stay back six feet from you
Comes quite naturally.

Linda Laughton
Bloomington, MN

Season of Covid ...
Stay six feet apart, asks Ole?
Uff-Da! Why so close?

Grant Fjermedal

How much space between
The bodies of such good friends
Our hearts are still close

Virginia Sattler-Reimer
Saint Paul, MN

A scarf covers my face
I don't hug those people anyway
Same as before all this began

Sandra (Johnson) Beatty

No real need to hug
Never wanted to get close
Even handshakes too much

Lee B
Austin, MN

The state fair is off
No polite "ope, let me get by"
Waiting 'til next year

Annie Carpenter
Minneapolis, MN

Round, freckled, and flat.
Rolled with butter and sugar.
Stay six feet away!

Laurie Martell
Tucson, AZ

Praise Be All Norway
Social Distancing Here Okay
Breathe In Glorious Open Fjords

Lea-Anne Carafa

Do vee keep apart?
Yah, you betcha, sure vee do
Dat's da Viking blood.

Terry Kennedy-Lares
Hastings, MN

I stay home, stay safe
Viking wanderlust on hold
I dream of far shores

Marcia Hendersen

Eyes sparkling and mask
No elbows brushing, courting...
In corona times

Virginie Olson

EDVARD MUNCH

Mary Jo Thorsheim - Judge

**Painting emotions,
Our deepest anxieties,
He touches us all.**

*Tom Lund
Roseville MN*

**Pastels, oils, crayons:
Munch choice of vibrant colors:
Painful art explodes.**

*Lana Christopher Rankin
Caldwell, ID*

**Edvard Munch ate lunch
Lutefisk with Tabasco
Then screamed for ice cream**

*Ruth Younger
Chico, CA*

People only see
My existential crisis.
Not my other art.

*Elizabeth Calio
Poughkeepsie, NY*

Tulla sword of blood
Horse treatment spanish flu brooch
Eva Mudocci

*Gill Holland
Davidson, NC*

I scream and you scream,
Ed Munch paints a girl who says
"I don't like ice cream!"

*Dick Kellor
Chaska, MN*

Very bold canvas
Abstract expressionism
Something to scream for

*Norman Dalthorp
Seattle, WA*

Edvard Munch, artist
A master of modern angst
Best known for the Scream

*Rebecca Anspach
Saint Paul, MN*

Beach of the Norse gods
Hope still reflected when
Starlight wears a veil

*Amanda Pommerening
Brainerd, MN*

The soul painting SCREAM
Norwegian artist mindful
Creative person

*Terri Garske
Fargo, ND*

The bridge and lonely figure
Edward Munch – The Scream –
Illness, Bereavement, Dread
Signals for end of rope

*Nancy Sand Olson
Maple Grove, MN*

Furry lightning bolt
Kitchen distorted walls
A mouse a scream

Virginie Olson

Amazing Nature
A loud scream is effective
To make us notice

*Susie Helms-Woodall
Roswell, GA*

Real horror, Edvard!
No social distance, no mask
I'd be screaming too!

*Mary Olson Schlink
Honolulu, HI*

I named him Edvard
Angels of fear, sorrow, death
Can I protect him?

*Judy Bjorndal
Austin, MN*

I will always scream
My Minnesota goodbye
Pass the Aquavit

*Liz Esse Kahrs
Scituate, MA*

A cold winter night
“Lutefisk again?” And so,
Munch begins to paint

Emily Sundseth
Saint Paul, MN

Dreary, dismal, bleak.
Munch painted desolate scenes.
My mind is Screaming!

Susan Flaatt Cooper
Colorado Springs, CO

Shiver on Johan
Child grows old, cold far too soon
We still hear his scream

Astri Doub
Owings Mills, MD

The sick child by Munch
Six paintings are on display
Tuberculosis

Rae Hood
Acton, CA

Our anxiety
a universal symbol
Edvard painted it

Virginia Sattler-Reimer
Saint Paul, MN

When last in Oslo
The Munch Museum door: locked!
I let out a Scream

Melisa Goss
Sioux Falls, SD

Expressionism
Crazed man escapes kool-aid sky
Are you OK, Ed?

Doug Mattson
Albuquerque, NM

I gave up the booze
With broad strokes I did not lose
Now can't touch my face

Patrick Howard
Louisville, KY

Screaming Norwegian
Taking a walk by the sea
Sigmund Freud approved

Glenn Anderson
St. Petersburg, FL

What kind of Norseman
Would paint someone making such
A gosh darn racket?

Amy Larson
Elk River, MN

I paint all those things
Polite Norwegians never
Admit to feeling

Maren Donley
Bothell, WA

We know The Scream well
A famous image for sure
But, do we like it?

Nancy Snyder
Boise, ID

Munch a great artist
Troubled man with great talent
Known most for the scream

Gladys Johnson
Richfield, MN

Oh the agony
the pain and abject horror
coffee pot is dry

Cathie Solomonson
Troutman, NC

Once upon a dream
My nightmare's persistent theme
Edvard Munch's "The Scream"

Michael Anderson
Plymouth, MN

Their huddle brightens
Looming shade of reflection.
Girls: Come, cross, or swim.

Jade Hidle
Long Beach, CA

Have you seen 'The Scream'?
That guy is touching his face!
Now I'm screaming, too.

Elizabeth Booman
Beaufort, SC

Someone stole my screams
Nordic angst carried away
Alas they are back

Rebecca Kruse
Inver Grove Heights, MN

Praise and appraisals
Silently he screams out loud
Perception is skewed.

Valerie Carlson Furey

Band director's tie
"The Scream" means watch out
today,
you're going to work hard.

Hannah Sprague
Mounds View, MN

Saab turns left on red.
Pedestrian screams "Uffda!"
Munch crosses over

James Carlson
Arlington, MN

Moody genius
Painting lust and screams
Inward man telling secrets.

Edi Thorstensson
St. Peter, MN

Once you see Munch's dog
The Scream has different meaning
Perspective matters

Mona Anita Olsen
McLean, VA

Shall I paint tonight?
Edvard had many choices.
Instead, he just screamed.

Elise Hickey

Tell me what it means
The hands that cup a taut face
Spread thick with despair

Friends that look away
And fail to hear pain's shrill cry
Or see it's ripples

Across the sky spreads
Blood red tears in night's
approach
A predator's feast

He howls at the moon
He lets fly a primal scream
From deep deep within

Or is he laughing
Because no one knows the truth
Tell me what it means

Amy Cox
Appleton, WI

Moonlight on the beach.
Few meet in a single blaze
Two humans. Lonely.

Magne Bruteig

Is it possible
Munch found a portal to now
While painting "The Scream"?

Lisa LaGoo Powell
Fridley, MN

I could write a poem
But right now I don't have time
I wish that I could

Tiina Watts

The Scream is a meme
That can look like a cocker
Spaniel to some folk!

Stefanie Levi
Minneapolis, MN

Munch for a Scream
He came to Minnesota
'Twas the Frieze of Life

Eric Olson
New York, NY

Sickness, death, and angst
Screaming out into the void
Colorful and dark

Emily Haraldson
Anaheim, CA

Had love and lost it
Freudian masterpieces
Angst, scorn, jealousy

Emily Haraldson
Anaheim, CA

Palette and paint brush
Angst roils within the artist
He can almost scream!

Lee Bjorndal
Austin, MN

Shrieking in Oslo,
Melancholy Edvard Munch.
Such anguish, The Scream.

Laurie Martell
Tucson, AZ

Emotions spill out
Vivid colors and stark shapes
Art by Edvard Munch

Jane Stillinger
Capitola, CA

Edvard Munch survived
The Spanish flu pandemic
On a wicker chair

Patricia Chrimer
Baltimore, MD

They breath on Munch's art
Yellows flake and turn mellow
Scream fades to whisper

Helen Scherer
Shawnee, KS

Munch did soul paintings
Color and flow with feeling
Moments well captured

Chris S.

Edvard's picture, Scream,
Is a bit unbearable:
Makes my head hurt Munch

Jim Heskin
Duluth, MN

Edvard Munch, stressed lunch ...
Lutefisk without cold beer,
Gelled soul screams: Must paint!

Grant Fjermedal

A sound of nature
It is eighteen ninety three
Did you hear the scream?

Astrid Sara
Maple Ridge BC

I know not much art.
Edvard Munch is new to me
But "The Scream" wows me.

Linda Laughton
Bloomington, MN

Standing on a bridge
Oh my gosh it's my ex
Let me run and hide

Joyce Hoffer
Lyndhurst, OH

Shocking news alert:
Today, in Norway, no one
stole a Munch painting.

John Ofstehage
Greenwood, MN

Painting my feelings
Infinite scream of nature
Agony and angst.

Sarah Riemer
Minneapolis, MN

Dear man did his best
Stayed home to protect the rest
If it helps scream on

Ann Rorem Brown
Portland, OR

Norwegian born Munch
Anxiety and The Scream
Depressing and Dark

Shoneen Wagner
Melbourne, FL

No 'Scream' seen that night
Midnight tour of his homestead
Only peace found there.

Barbara Dykema

The 2020 HaikUff-Da! Contest

*We want to thank
everyone who participated
and brought such lovely
bright spots to us all!*

Thank you!

