

## Poetry Choices for Our Poetry Café

### *I Look Pretty*

By Eloise Greenfield

Mama's shiny purple coat  
Giant-sized shoulder bag to tote  
Tall, tall shoes and pantyhose  
Big straw hat and shiny bows  
I look pretty  
I float  
I smile  
I pose

### *By Myself*

By Eloise Greenfield

When I'm by myself  
And I close my eyes  
I'm a twin  
I'm a dimple in a chin  
I'm a room full of toys  
I'm a squeaky noise  
I'm a gospel song  
I'm a gong  
I'm a leaf turning red  
I'm a loaf of brown bread  
I'm a whatever I want to be  
And when I open my eyes  
What I care to be  
Is me

Eloise Greenfield

### **His Dream Lives On**

Today is a day we all sing  
In honor of Martin Luther King

Wherever people fight to be free  
His name is remembered with dignity

When black people weren't treated right  
He stood strong to lead the fight

He fought with love, not guns or darts  
He changed peoples' minds and their hearts

But some people didn't like his words  
He was taken away, to a better world

Yet his dream lives on, that all can be free  
When we knock down the walls between you and me

Martin Luther King's life did not last  
But his dream and his spirit are free at last

## **Hold My Hand**

**By Wendy Silva**

Hold out your hand  
and take mine in yours.  
Let us walk together  
through life's doors.

Hold out your hand and  
offer your wisdom to me.  
Put me on a path to  
discover who I can be.

Hold out your hand  
for I'm growing fast.  
Before your eyes these small  
hands will be a memory of the past.

As I grow I will always remember  
when you helped me to stand.  
And I will always remember  
that you held out your hand.

## **Jeannie Had a Giggle**

**By Walter Dean Myers**

Jeannie had a giggle just beneath her toes  
She gave a little wiggle and up her leg it rose

She tried to grab the giggle as it shimmied past her knees  
But it slid right past her fingers with a " 'scuse me if you please"

It slipped around her middle, it made her jump and shout  
Jeannie wanted that giggle in, that giggle wanted out!

Jeannie closed her mouth, but then she heard a funny sound  
As out that silly giggle flew and jumped to the ground

Jeannie caught it with her foot just beneath her toes  
She gave a little wiggle and up her leg it rose