

# Poetry IN THE PLAZA



VILLAGE OF GREAT NECK PLAZA  
Twelfth Annual Poetry Contest, July 2022

## Honorable Mention **There is Something** By Evelyn Kandel

There is something you cannot know  
for I have not opened my heart;  
something you need to know  
though I have not spoken.

There is something painful hidden  
under the laughter,  
a necessary counter-point  
to make this *something* bearable.

I want to say  
*touch me.*  
I feel winds circle,  
though windows and doors are locked,  
cold seeps under the sills.

I try to say  
*touch me.*  
The barren room, cavernous,  
without chairs or soft cushions;  
even walls repulse warmth.

I cannot say  
*touch me.*  
Where did the dancing go?  
Weight of an arm on my shoulders,  
pressure of fingers on my palm.

It is so lonely in this empty house.  
Can you hear me  
if I say  
*touch me?*

