

*This second piece that Jaclyn submitted takes a rather common experience and brings it to life. She came up with an ingenious idea to separate the last five lines in the poem and place one between each of the stanzas, giving the poem quite a unique affect. Although this piece is a stretch from the style Jaclyn usually writes, it ended up being a fine piece of work!*

*~Amy VanProosdy, Tutor*

### **Your Things & Me / Come Back for Us**

By Jaclyn Esqueda

Your towel is still hanging  
in the bathroom on the bar next to mine,  
like you might need it tomorrow  
to rub the water from your hair.

you've been gone a week now

Your leftover chow mein is still in the fridge,  
in its little white box  
with the red pagoda on the front,  
like you might heat it up for lunch tomorrow.

but your things and me

Your tennis shoes with the tangled laces  
are there by the door,  
in case you might go for a run  
tomorrow after work.

we'll wait patiently

Your computer is still whirring  
on the desk in the corner,  
waiting in stand-by mode  
for you to key a command.

in case you might

But your towel has been dry for days.  
Your forgotten food is growing mold.  
Your shoes are gathering dust.  
And your computer is wasting electricity.

come back for us tomorrow