

A L'Arora

Love From A Non-Smoker Who Wants Beloved Smokers to Quit

a You joined the smoking high school crowd.
b A beauty blurred in smoke.
c A healthy girl who coughed into womanhood.
d We gave you a dog as an incentive to stop.
e When you couldn't or wouldn't the dog had to leave.
f You could not stop for motherhood,
g smoking away from your child, only outside.
f You are trying to stop now like you know you should.

a You were the athlete scholar
b You began smoking in college.
c Your family made you smoke outside the home.
d None of your family smoked.
e But a heart attack almost killed you.
f Quitting smoking was part of your recovery.
g You are lean and eating right.
f Smoke-free you're full of discovery.

a You smoked like a chimney.
b Never saw you without a cigarette.
c You smoked in your home around your family.
d You smoked around forty years.
e But a heart irregularity compelled you to quit.
f No longer a smokestack, smoking left you ill.
g You take meds in your mouth instead.
f In my mind I see you smoking still.

a My father smoked for many years.
b He was away from home at work much of the time.
c We had ashtrays in the house.
d I made a ceramic ashtray for him once
e before I knew fathers do not always make wise decisions.
f Somehow I had no interest in smoking—too cheap
g to burn money needed for other purposes
f and I had promises to my loved ones to keep.

A L'Arora: Created by Laura Lamarca

8-line stanzas

Rhyme Scheme: a-b-c-d-e-f-g-f

No syllable count per line.

Minimum length for the poem 4 stanzas.

No maximum length.

A L'Arora is named for Laura Lamarca "La" is her signature.

"Aurora" means "dawn" in Italian. "Arora" is from this.

In the example the f lines within each stanza rhyme.