

## Variations on a Theme

### November Poinsettia

#### -1- Prose paragraph

A sprig of poinsettia left in a grocery cart, spread on the black flap used for small items toddler seat or purse. Detached from plant the stray sprig looks like an opened heart. Crinkled in cold fog. I leave it and go inside the store with another cart. The burst of red can brighten another shopper. When I return, a man crams the carts into a row to take inside. I rescue the bloom and take it home to warm and wither before Thanksgiving.

#### -2- Haiku

poinsettia sprig left  
in grocery cart, an opened heart  
to warm cold fog

#### -3- Fib

##### Piece of Poinsettia

Red  
bloom  
out of  
season. sprig  
poinsettia  
left in grocery cart to die.

Left  
cold  
in fog  
sprig brightens  
gray surroundings, so  
I leave it to cheer some others.

#### -4- Free Verse

##### Pointing Out Poinsettia

A splash of red  
in a grocery cart  
splayed like an opened heart  
bleeding red on green leaves.

A spill of red on metal cart  
in cold fog warms me,  
makes me smile.  
I take another cart  
so crinkled bloom can brighten others.

With cart-ful of goods  
I return to my car,  
spy a man cramming carts  
to compact a row to push inside.  
I retrieve the endangered sprig  
and carry it home  
in my front seat.

In a blue glass  
I hope to ease wrinkles,  
place the bloom on the table.  
It will wither  
before Thanksgiving.

-5- Cinquain

Poinsettia in November

Red bloom  
detached from plant  
cast in grocery cart  
left to shrivel, shiver alone  
on cold.

Red sprig  
splays on green leaves  
tainted like red paint waits  
for welcoming hand to claim it,  
bring home.

### **Variations on a Theme**

1. Write a prose paragraph and focus on an incident.
2. Chose several other poetry forms to write about it as well.
3. Title each section and have an overall title.
4. You can choose the variations.