

## **FOURTH PRIZE WINNER**

### ***Landscapes of Memory***

When striding over the hills is but a poignant memory  
And long days in the wild a past delight  
The backpack heavier then with specimens  
Each energy pulsing day advancing to the night  
Eager restoratives by a campfire  
Would renew the ebbing strength  
While spirits revived with the joy of life  
And strength for the long trek home at length.

Oh, sweet recollections of days bygone  
Recaptured now in pages of a book  
Prose, poetry and resplendent views  
Breathtaking colours to absorb and look  
Energy flows from the magical scenes  
The wind in the pollarded oaks seems real  
Crushed fragrance of flowers drifts up from the ground  
And the waterfall's spray is refreshing to feel.

A turn of a page brings the scrape of a boot  
Sounds of shale slithering, birds' cries of alarm  
Tension relived but enjoyed now in full  
Past adventures and dangers can now hold no harm  
Evocative landscapes are rich in their power  
Outlooks so vivid inspire with delight  
The sedentary viewer can travel with ease  
No longer restricted by heights, hunger or night.

**Dorothy M. Norris**

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