

Hello! And Happy National Poetry Month!

As the Poet Laureate for the State of Kansas, I hope that everyone has a chance to read and even write a poem this April.

This poem and the fill-in-the-blank prompt is designed for teens/young adults. Think about a food that you love and always look forward to!

If you would like to do so, please feel free to share your results by posting on social media and tagging: Poet Laureate of Kansas on Facebook and/or @poetlaureateofkansas\_ on Instagram. I would love to see everyone's wonderful poems!

—Traci Brimhall, Poet Laureate of Kansas

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Here's a sample poem that you can read to get you started:

#### NECTARINE SEASON

*after Aimee Nezhukumatathil's "One Bite"*

The right nectarine can change a person.  
Smooth as a cheek, heavy as a baseball,  
the right one is ripe and has been ready

all afternoon. I run the knife through  
the cleft and twist it into halves, pry  
the pit out with my fingernail. Its tough

stain stares at me like a red eye. Then,  
with the patience of a mother, I cut  
the soft halves into eight even smiles.

They sweeten with every bite. How long  
before I forget what July tastes like? How  
many dreams until it's nectarine season again?

\_\_\_\_\_

(food title)

One bite of a \_\_\_\_\_ can change you.

(food)

\_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_

(adjective) (noun) (adjective) (noun)

The best one is \_\_\_\_\_ is ready \_\_\_\_\_

(adjective) (time of day/year)

I \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ into it and \_\_\_\_\_ it.

(verb) (noun) (verb)

I eat it \_\_\_\_\_.

-(with hands? Knife and fork? Bite into it?)

It tastes like \_\_\_\_\_.

(complete the simile)

How long before \_\_\_\_\_?

How many times \_\_\_\_\_?