JoAnne Growney: Poem [1]

April 25, 2016 Math Poetry [2]

Skagway Study

after Wis?awa Szymborska

Of 100 who left Seattle for Skagway in 1898 40 made it to the gold fields 8 found gold.

Of 100 who found gold in the Yukon 58 never got rich 29 made fortunes and lost them.

Of 100 who came to Skagway in 1898 9 were women 8 survived the year.

Of 100 businesses started in Skagway in 1898 32 were honest 3 lasted ten years.

Of 100 men who came to Skagway 14 were brave on arrival 80 evolved.

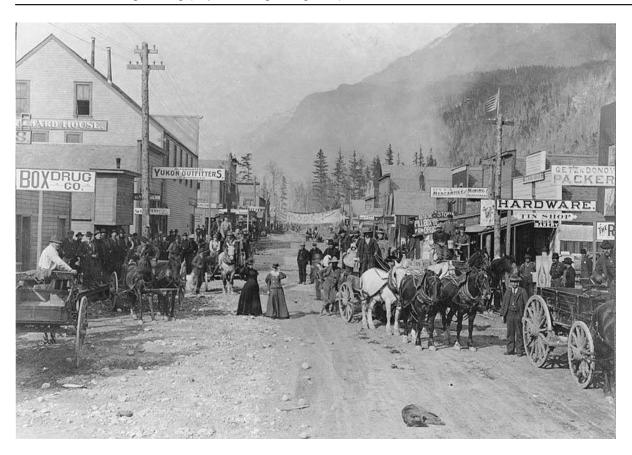
Of 100 women who came to Skagway 98 lost their corsets 85 lost their skirts.

Of 100 men in Skagway in 1898 97 condemned prostitution 97 knew prostitutes intimately.

Of 100 people in Skagway next July 4 84 will be tourists 9 will serve the tourists 6 will be children.

Of 100 people who come to Skagway 95 move on.

Nearly all of those who stay decide To want what they have found.



Publishing Information

• This poem draws on information found in the library of the Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park in Skagway, Alaska.

Art Information

• <u>"Broadway, Skagway, Alaska, May 20, 1898"</u> [3] photographed by Eric A. Hegg © Library University Washington; public domain.



JoAnne Growney has loved poetry since girlhood. While a mathematics professor at

Pennsylvania's Bloomsburg University, she brought the arts, particularly poetry, into her classroom—and that sort of

(function(i,s,o,g,r,a,m){i['GoogleAnalyticsObject']=r;i[r]=i[r]||function(){ (i[r].q=i[r].q||[]).push(arguments)},i[r].l=1*new Date();a=s.createElement(o), m=s.getElementsByTagName(o)[0];a.async=1;a.src=g;m.parentNode.insertBefore(a,m) })(window,document,'script','https://www.googlege 2 of 3 analytics.com/analytics.js','ga'); ga('create', 'UA-18260536-1', 'auto'); ga('send', 'pageview');

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Published on Talking Writing (https://talkingwriting.com)

integrative activity continues in her blog "Intersections—Poetry with Mathematics." [4]

Growney's poetry collections include *Red Has No Reason* (Plain View Press, 2010) and *My Dance Is Mathematics* (Paper Kite Press, 2001). In her current hometown of Silver Spring, Maryland, she teaches an ongoing poetry workshop for mental health clients.

Details of her articles and her collaborative projects with artists and translators may be found at <u>JoAnne Growney's</u> <u>website</u> [5].

Source URL: https://talkingwriting.com/joanne-growney-poem

Links:

- [1] https://talkingwriting.com/joanne-growney-poem
- [2] https://talkingwriting.com/talkingwriting-categories/spotlight-math-poetry
- [3] http://digitalcollections.lib.washington.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/hegg/id/223
- [4] http://poetrywithmathematics.blogspot.com/
- [5] http://joannegrowney.com/