Pineapple Surprise

By: Nikki Grimes

Grandma wasn’t much for hugging.

She was entirely too frail

to give me piggyback rides

and moved too slow

for hide-and-seek.

But sometimes,

while I played alone,

she would magically appear

with pineapple upside-down cake,

which took considerable trouble to make:

Honey-glazed pineapple rings

 clinging to the bottom—

or was it the top?

Maraschino cherries pop-

Ping with tooth tingling

tangy sweetness,

two thick layers of buttery,

gooey, scrumptiously chewy,

pineapple-licious yellow cake

baked for nobody else but me.