

# Gilroy Library Writing Contest Information and Rules

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## *The Theme: Forgiveness*

As in the novel *The Distant Land of My Father* by Bo Caldwell, the 2008 Silicon Valley Reads book selection, forgiveness may arise out of betrayal and reconciliation. Gilroy Library invites you to explore the theme of forgiveness in a short work of fiction, non-fiction or poetry. A reception for the writers will be held during National Library Week. Winning entries will be read aloud and posted on the library website.

1. Write about the theme of forgiveness in a short work of fiction, non-fiction or poetry.
2. Your entry (or an excerpt from a longer work) must be 1000 words or less.
3. All work submitted must be original and written by you.
4. Participants must be registered borrowers of the Santa Clara County Library.
5. People of all ages may participate.
6. A maximum of one entry may be submitted by each individual.
7. A completed application and a signed Release/Author Biography Form must accompany the entry.
8. All documents must be typed. Make sure that your full name appears on the upper right hand corner of each page.
9. You may submit your entry as a Word document on a floppy disk formatted for PC along with the completed application and Release/Author Biography Form.
10. Work may be submitted electronically. All the information requested on the application must also be included in your email message as text in the body of your email message or as a Word document or pdf attachment. In order for your entry to be valid, you must provide a signed copy of the Release/Author Biography Form for our records.
11. Entries will be accepted from January 15 until 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 15, 2008
12. A selection panel that may include local writers, educators, librarians, and other community members will meet in late March. The winning writers will be notified in early April. A reception will be held in their honor during National Library Week (April 13-18)..
13. Documents will not be returned. Be sure to keep a copy of your work.
14. Employees of Santa Clara County Library, library commissioners for cities served by the County Library, contest panelists/sponsors may participate in the Staff category.
15. Any entry which does not follow the rules as stated above or is incomplete may be disqualified by the library staff or the selection panel.

For more information, please contact the Gilroy Library Reference Desk or write to:

Address: ***Forgiveness***, Gilroy Library, 7387 Rosanna Street, Gilroy CA 95020  
Telephone: (408) 842-8207  
Email: [forgiveness@library.sccgov.org](mailto:forgiveness@library.sccgov.org)

Other Silicon Valley Reads programs -- <http://www.siliconvalleyreads.org/>

