

**A Poem Dedicated to my Sister Shizuko
on her Birthday, March 12, 2017 By Raquel Ramsey**



Shizuko Greenblatt, The Tree, Reaching for the Sky

THE TREE, REACHING FOR THE SKY

Who are thee? But just a Tree?
You opened so many doors to me
I see you as a Symbol of Beauty,
For you capture the imagination of everyone
As they watch your form and grandeur,
Like my sister captured you on canvas,
Which made her win multiple awards!

You are a Symbol of Love,

As your branches embrace your viewers

Who rush under to protect themselves from drops of rain

Or from the sun's rays striking right onto their faces.

You are a Symbol of Strength,

As we learn from you to be self-reliant and self-sufficient

And to know that we will overcome any adversity that faces us

As you have stood the Test of Time,

You are a Symbol of Life

As every stem and branch gets nourishment from its roots

Teaching us that we receive our nourishment from our Moms, like Shizuko

That we need to appreciate every day of our lives and be grateful for

We are blessed with Gifts like YOU! And we hope that they last till Eternity.

But they change and so do we, they undergo difficulty as their branches break and so do we,

They may be cut down by others who do not recognize your beauty and so many times, we do too.

But Learn from the Tree, a Symbol of Stability, Love, Beauty and Life!

Shizuko saw all that when she painted you and she carries your message reflected in my poem to her.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR SISTER SHIZUKO!

I AM SO PROUD OF YOU AND ALL YOU DO FOR OTHERS WITH YOUR TALENT AND
GRACE!

ALL MY LOVE,

RAQUI

