Hello. My name is _____ (*please tell us little about yourself*) (*Vicki, if you're reading this please keep it to 500 hundred words **or less**. We don't want to give Melissa too much time to get nervous*) Kim is unable to be here with us this evening and has ask me to read this intro (*blah, blah whatever works for you*)

Greetings and welcome to Community Voices, an open poetry and prose reading sponsored by Peace Offerings and the Social Justice Center. Before our feature reader is introduced, I would like to tell you a little about the his/herstory of community voices and it's importance.

Community voices is the brainchild of Rose Lisboa and without her We would not be here tonight. Rose is an active member of In Our Own Voices and the _____ Writer's Guild, among others. At the time of Community Voices inception Rose was a member of the Social Justice Center's Board of Director's. Her idea was to get writers from the guild and activist/ writer's from the community, together to share and encourage works focusing on peace and justice issues.

Tonight we've come to listen to writers read their work. Their writing is an extension of how they perceive either or both the inner and the outer worlds that we all live in. Tonight they are willing the share their works with our community.

Coming together in community means we're <u>all</u> here to share. To share our joy and our sorrows. To share our victories and our losses. To share our fear and our courage. To speak our outrage and to raise our voices in encouragement of one another.

I encourage all of you, even if you haven't come to read, to share after our writer's are finished reading. Ask questions, praise, share feelings that the works evoked, share the funny thing that happened on the way to work this morning. For these are Our Community Voices.

Some final words of thanks to my friends, my family and my community. Without all of you, my family and I would have never have gotten through this past

week and tonight would never have happened. Thanks to Colia Clark who covered the store this afternoon when I couldn't. To Vicki, whom I sure didn't quite know what she was getting herself into tonight. To Moses, who's been saying for the last 3 ½ months "when are we going to have a Poetry reading?" And Ann Conway and Janet Douglass who have taken yet another series of surprises (I'm assuming) in stride.

List of stuff

Rose is bringing cups and coffee,

we need napkins, get some chips or something and cream, Ann will give you money from
      the register, save me the receipt

start moving the racks around at about 5:30and make coffee

don't forget to turn the ringer off on the phone when the reading starts

Someone (probably John) will drop off soda from my house

Folding chairs are downstairs and upstairs,

Make sign-up sheet for open mike

sign for door 'quiet please, poetry reading in progress...”

Look for a really tall greying black guy, his name is Moses he can have 10-15 mins(he
      volunteers here and bugged me until I set this poetry reading up)

Get Everyone seated around 6:30 and started

Pass around open mike sign-up one more time (5 mins each)

Read my intro

Introduce Melissa

Melissa reads (Melisas can read up to 30 min.)

Open Mike (start with Moses)

questions/comment/sharing

Next Poetry reading 3rd Friday

Ask every one Who they think should read.

Put chairs back

Put racks back as best you can

lock front door

Put bills checks in bag and put in tan file cabinet

Love you all Kim