

Dear Teachers,

To Mrs. Hunt,  
my kindergarten teacher,  
who taught me the pleasure  
of making up fairy tales in my mind  
to go with the classical music  
she played each day during nap time,  
I say thank you.

To Mrs. Sables,  
my third grade teacher,  
who respected my creativity so much  
that she let me spend the whole day  
working on my raindrop story,  
that time I was so inspired,  
I say thank you.

To Miss Slotnick,  
my seventh grade English teacher,  
who taught me  
that solace and salvation  
can be found  
in the pages of a diary,  
I say thank you.

To Myra Cohn Livingston,  
the teacher I waited for  
all my life,  
who taught me  
the infinite joy  
of writing poetry,  
I say thank you.

And to all of you,  
who are out there every day,  
teaching children to love  
the written word,  
I say thank you, thank you, thank you,  
for giving them  
this magnificent gift.

With deepest admiration and appreciation,  
Sonya Sones