INTRODUCTION SAMPLE 1

 Emma Goldman once espoused, “I’d rather have roses on my table than diamonds on my neck” (*The Quote Garden*). Her statement offers a couple of possibilities to consider. Obviously, this presents her value system; she prefers natural beauty as opposed to manufactured. Despite their origination in the earth, the worth of a diamond also rests largely in the cut. Roses may be guided, nurtured and even genetically altered, but they still grow on their own, an authentic work of art. Interestingly, Goldman also inadvertently reveals her relative financial comfort. People struggling to survive would have to choose the diamonds if for no other reason than to sell them. After all, a diamond necklace could buy a tremendous amount of roses or provide food and lodging. Many stories revolve around these same values and how poverty impacts people’s lives. Georgie from Irene Hunt’s *The lottery Rose*, Lizabeth from Eugenia Collier’s “Marigolds,” and Alice from the movie *Wildflower* all struggle with poverty and quite different family issues, but they also manage to use a particular flower as a means to work through their different problems.

CONCLUSION SAMPLE 1

 Alice, Lizabeth and Georgie each benefit from a connection to flowers in their stories. Despite major differences, all three begin with a variety of struggles, which could have resulted in devastation. So whether a little boy needs a safe, healthy place to live and grow up or women need to work out the logistics of maturity and love relationships, everyone needs help at times. When authors use a beautiful flower motif to help bring characters together and move the plot along, stories gain richness and depth. Life lessons are not always easy but the end result is usually beautiful, like Goldman’s lovely roses.

INTRODUCTION SAMPLE 2

 “The violets in the mountains have broken the rocks” (*The Quote Garden*). Author Tennessee Williams’ dramatic statement presents an interesting concept. The juxtaposition of the delicate and vibrantly colored flower against the plain and sturdy rock presents a visually striking image. But add to this the idea that something that transient and seemingly fragile can conquer a rock and Williams has made quite a profound observation. Flowers should not be able to perform such a task. And although doing so takes quite some time, such miracles do occur. Perhaps, this persevering quality of plants makes them great tools for authors. People also seem quite fragile at times but have to overcome immense obstacles. When the use of a flower helps characters break through their emotional traps, a flower motif adds a poignant aspect to the plot. Georgie from Irene Hunt’s *The lottery Rose*, Lizabeth from Eugenia Collier’s “Marigolds,” and Alice from the movie *Wildflower* all struggle with poverty and quite different family issues, but they also manage to use a particular flower as a means to work through their different problems.

CONCLUSION SAMPLE 2

 Alice, Lizabeth and Georgie each benefit from a connection to flowers in their stories. Despite major differences, all three began with a variety of struggles, which could have resulted in devastation. So whether a little boy needs a safe, healthy place to live and grow up or women need to work out the logistics of maturity and love relationships, everyone needs help at times. When authors use a beautiful flower motif to help bring people together and move the plot along, stories gain richness and depth. Life lessons are not often easy, but people enjoy watching characters break through their own respective rocks, so they can bloom.