



## *A Parting Song* (FOR THIS BAR YEAR)

“But since it has so ought to be  
By a time to rise and a time to fall  
Come fill to me the parting glass  
Good night and joy be with you all”  
—The Parting Glass

**THE TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH SONG “THE PARTING GLASS” IS TYPICALLY SUNG AT THE END OF A GET-TOGETHER OF FRIENDS.** Historically, the “parting glass” was the final hospitable act shown to a departing guest to fortify them for their future journey. The earliest appearance of the tune with text was in 1782 as a fiddle tune by a different name. Even though the origins of the song are difficult to trace and over the centuries, many different variations have existed, the sentiment has stayed the same—to send people off on their future journeys well.

With my TYLA service spanning over a decade, the emotions of my departure are hard to balance. My word count is not long enough, and my list of adjectives runs short for every good thing I have experienced, accomplished, or learned over the past several years. I am overwhelmed with gratitude.

My vision for this year centered on creating a symphony of bar service, focusing on improving the quality of legal services for our Texas lawyers. I acknowledged that I could never hope to achieve anything without my TYLA team. But the important work of TYLA that supports our newly licensed lawyers and advances the role of the legal profession does not end with me. Even as my term ends, I encourage the next generation of new lawyers to follow my lead in continuing to say “yes” to service in our profession.

It seems only fitting to end this lyrical series of articles with a new, Laura Pratt version of “The Parting Glass.”

*Of all the time that e'er I had  
I spent it well it seems.  
And all the projects that I had planned,  
Are now all deemed complete.  
Of all the friends that e'er I led,  
Would wish me to stay, not leave.  
But since my year ends, as well should,  
I hope and pray I did some good.*

*So fill to me the parting glass  
And toast our bar and whate'er befall.  
To the next generation, we pass this call,  
Our legal legacy remains with them all.*

*Of all the travel that e'er I did,  
Drivin' and flyin' cross this state,  
And all the speeches that e'er I bid,  
Reminded me to be brave.  
And all the service that e'er I did,  
I'm glad it was with TYLA.  
But since my year ends, as well should,  
I hope and pray I did some good.*

*So fill to me the parting glass  
And toast our bar and whate'er befall.  
To the next generation, we pass this call,  
Our legal legacy remains with them all.*

Thank you for helping me create something beautiful this year, and in the words of the song, “joy be with you all.”

### **LAURA PRATT**

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