

## **Short Speeches of Acceptance** **Pansy Shafer**

### **No. 1:**

Sisters and Brothers, if I could only express all that is in my heart, you would know how much I appreciate this gift, but I am poor in expressing myself, poor in the use of flowery words, but not poor in the love I feel for my Friends, My Sisters and My Brothers. If I cannot be eloquent, I can think, and I do think, that you are the Dearest Friends in the world and I thank you from my heart.

### **No. 2:**

I accept this gift, feeling that in giving it to me you have the same feeling of friendship for me that I have for you.

A poet has said, "Love tho it be given in vain, is yet lovely". If that is true, then how much more beautiful is friendship given, with friendship given in return, and I do feel that you are my friends. It did not take a gift to make me feel that, for I have felt the clasp of your hands, your smiles and you have made my life much happier by having known you all, having loved you, and in having felt your friendship. I thank you.

### **No. 3:**

Sisters and Brothers: You have made me so happy tonight I am almost without words to tell you how much I prize this gift. I shall treasure it among my souvenirs and when in future years I am thinking of this year, I shall picture all you Dear Friends who have meant so very, very much in my life.

I shall picture your faces, your words, your smiles and the warm hearts that prompted you to do this lovely thing for me. I cannot think that I have ever done anything to deserve it, outside of loving you, but that I do with all that is in my heart. I wish I might do all the things that I have in my mind to do for you, but I am afraid you would never get over it so I can only say; I love you, and thank you.

### **No. 4:**

I do not know what this package may contain, but I thank you for it and I will use it for whatever purpose it was intended, and I shall think of all your dear faces every time I look at it or wear it or use it. Your friendship means more to me than all else and you have gladdened my life by coming into it.

You know it is written that "No stream from its source flows seaward, how lonely so ever its course, but what some land is gladdened". Even so, have you gladdened mine. I am so happy that our lives met, and I thank you and with you all happiness and success.

**No. 5:**

Sisters and Brothers, I am realizing more, every day of my life, the meaning of the word "Friendship". What else do we get out of life that can in any way take the place of friends – nothing. I feel it so much tonight with this gift from you in my hands. I have always loved and appreciated my friends, but somehow, when something like this turns up, you are just overwhelmed and can't tell how you feel. I suppose one can express it more by saying you feel like the Earth does after an earthquake has passed over, still there but shaky. I thank you for this gift. I know it is beautiful without looking at it, for all you have ever done for me in word, act or gift has been beautiful.

I thank you sincerely.