

METAPHOR

Paul Fraleigh

For want of metaphor, a poem was lost:
For lacking mortar for each teetering part,
The sagging structure simply came down fast.
Yet metaphor does more than fasten art—
It forms the essence of all poetry:
Comparing two different things implicitly,
Bestows on thought, dimensionality,
Just as two eyes combined, makes sight 3-D.
So, when the metaphor is well conceived,
The composition then is swiftly brought
To life—no need the poet be aggrieved
To see his ardent labor end in aught:
It's now become a trellis in his mind,
Where images upon it freely wind.

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