

Something that can Be Said About Poetry

By: Giovanni Maria Tommaso

A poem written well will produce within the mind, heart, and soul of the reader what a good book or play or movie can. The emotions and feelings stirred up can be just as powerful and long-lasting, aside from the knowledge gained and introspection experienced. A poem that is both captivating and luring, can draw its reader into a bilateral understanding of two minds in a heightened realm of existence and raise them to new levels of spiritual union.

This process comes from having lived life by the disciplined focus of observation, prayer, meditation, and contemplation; acts that are unconsciously constant within each individual being every moment of their waking and sleeping lives. The good poet has somehow mastered this talent, like a painter, a sculptor, an author, an actor, a teacher, a producer, etc..., have all in a sense mastered their craft by grace.

Poetry has gotten a bad rap lately. Why? There are several reasons why such possible misunderstandings of the essence of poetry can and may occur; however, the human language in any language spoken is filled with poetry when the poetic ear is applied to what might be considered an ordinary conversation, one is surprised by the poetic nuances that are ever present.

Really Frances, I must say that you look stunning tonight. Oh, Harold, are you really being honest, don't slight me. But Frances, every word I say is true, especially when you look at me, with those big brown, brassy eyes of blue.

*Really Frances, I must say that you look stunning tonight.
Oh, Harold, are you really being honest, don't slight me.*

*But Frances, every word I say is true, especially when you
look at me, with those big brown, brassy eyes of blue.*

Can you see the everyday usage of the language in this short poem? The phrasing and the punctuation are what makes it work. The rhythm and the rhyme of this little ditty, the alliteration, the unexpected play of the words, brown and blue, all gel together to make it work. Have you ever looked into dark brown eyes that look almost black but when the light hits them just right, there is a rectangular shape of blue slightly off center yet in the midst of the iris, as a deep, dark, shiny blue?

Read the above four sentences again, aloud this time. Walk around if you have to; breathe, jump, shake yourself off, and let yourself go! Use your reading diction creatively, perform the lines. A whole chapter can be written around the four sentences. And yet, the four sentences suffice for the whole chapter; and why is that?

It is because the mind is the instrument that enjoys the thought processes involved in reading and is able to appreciate the addition of embellishments or the subtracting of images to complete its own imaginative story, so..., keep writing. You're doing well!

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