

A Talisman - Marianne Moore

Under a splintered mast, torn from the ship and cast near her hull,

a stumbling shepherd found, embedded in the ground, a sea-gull

of lapis lazuli, a scarab of the sea, with wings spread---

curling its coral feet, parting its beak to greet men long dead.



Snow Toward Evening - Melville Cane

Suddenly the sky turned gray, The day, Which had been bitter and chill, Grew soft and still. Quietly From some invisible blossoming tree Millions of petals cool and white Drifted and blew, Lifted and flew, Fell with the falling night.



Mice – Rose Fyleman

I think mice

Are rather nice.

Their tails are long, Their faces small, They haven't any Chins at all. Their ears are pink, Their teeth are white, They run about The house at night They nibble things They shouldn't touch And no one seems

To like them much.

But I think mice

Are nice.



The Reminder – Thomas Hardy

While I watch the fireplace blaze
Paint the room with ruddy rays,
Something makes my vision glide
To the frosty scene outside.

There, to reach a rotting berry,

Toils a thrush, -constrained to very

Dregs of food by sharp distress,

Taking such with thankfulness.

Why, O starving bird, when I One day's joy would justify, And put misery out of view, Do you make me notice you!



I Dream A World – Langston Hughes

I dream a world where man
No other man will scorn,
Where love will bless the earth
And peace its path adorn.
I dream a world where ALL
Will know sweet freedom's way,
Where greed no longer saps the soul
Nor avarice blights our day.

A world I dream where black or white,
Whatever race you be,
Will share the bounties of the earth
And every man is free,
Where wretchedness will hang its head
And joy, like a pearl,
Attends the needs of all mankind--Of such I dream, my world!



This is Just to Say... - William Carlos Williams

I have eaten the plums that were in the icebox

And which you were probably saving for breakfast

Forgive me they were delicious so sweet and so cold



The Falling Star - Sara Teasdale

I saw a star slide down the sky,
Blinding the north as it went by,
Too burning and too quick to hold,
Too lovely to be bought or sold,
Good only to make wishes on
And then forever to be gone.

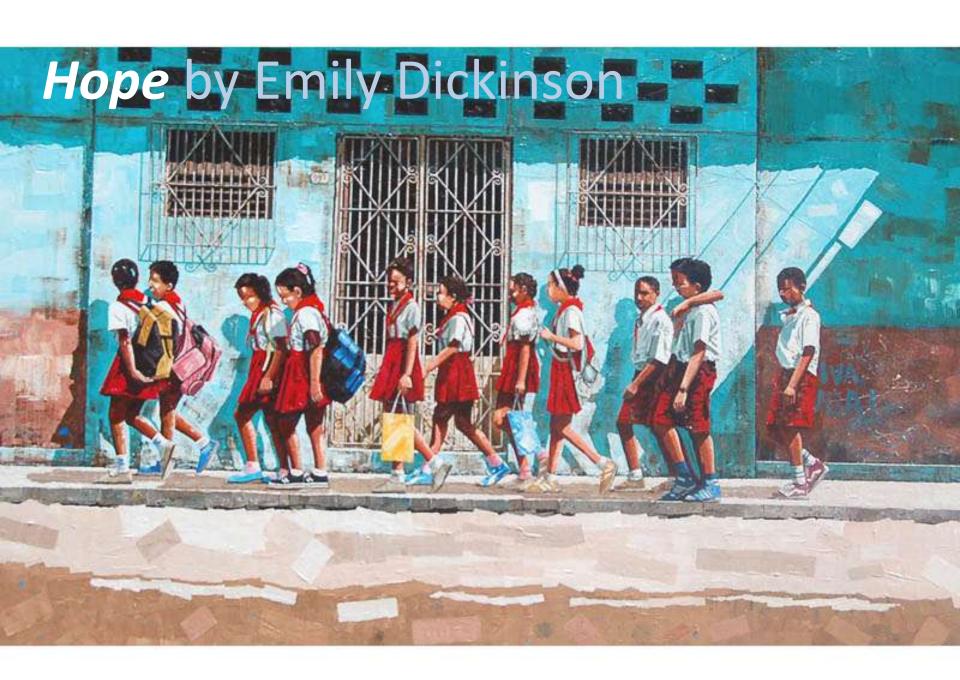


Hope – Emily Dickinson

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune--without the words,
And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard; And sore must be the storm That could abash the little bird That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chillest land, And on the strangest sea; Yet, never, in extremity, It asked a crumb of me.



Encounter – Czeslaw Milosz

CHES-wawf MEE-wawsh

We were riding through frozen fields in a wagon at dawn. A red wing rose in the darkness.

And suddenly a hare ran across the road. One of us pointed to it with his hand.

That was long ago. Today neither of them is alive, Not the hare, nor the man who made the gesture.

O my love, where are they, where are they going The flash of a hand, streak of movement, rustle of pebbles. I ask not out of sorrow, but in wonder.



Experiment Degustatory – Ogden Nash

A gourmet challenged me to eat

A tiny bit of rattlesnake meat,

Remarking, "Don't look horror-stricken.

You'll find it tastes a lot like chicken."

It did.

Now chicken I cannot eat,

Because it tastes like rattlesnake meat.

Experiment Degustatory by Ogden Nash

