

The Monday Poem: 'The Courtship' by Josh Lewis

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The Monday poem is brought to you by Jim Gormley in the SUNY Broome English Department. Enjoy!

The Courtship by Josh Lewis

Your handwriting juxtaposed with mine –

an elegant sea contrasted with chaos

barely contained by the margins.

Your cursive is different from mine

in every way except the alphabet we use.

Even then your words spell out stories

that I'm not privy to. Secrets

that can hardly whisper their own names

except when you're around. My words

tend to reflect who I really am,

a mess of characters that don't seem

to come together except at the last moment,

something that I've come to accept.

Acceptance is something that comes with age.

I accept, and appreciate, your language.

Your statements show me what's possible

within the eloquence of execution.

I hope my poetry inspires you

despite its rough-hewn edges,

its inability to stay within the lines.

This juxtaposition only serves to remind me

of how language builds upon itself,

reveling in its self-discoveries

and marveling in how words speak

regardless of their shape and appearance.

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