Poetry Study

Day 7
September 6\textsuperscript{th}

• Daily Description: Describe the sunset. Try to use similes and metaphors in addition to imagery.

• Agenda:
  – Daily Description
  – Poetry I Love
  – Share Poems of Self
  – Symbol and Allegory
  – Figurative Language Check Point
Today’s Objectives

• I will know different types of figurative language.

• I will be able to identify figurative language in poems and be able to use figurative language to write my own descriptions.
Poetry I Love
Symbol

• Something that means more than what it is.
“The Road Not Taken”
by Robert Frost

• Who is the speaker?
• What is the situation?
• Identify the symbolism.
• Why does the speaker say he will “sigh”? Did he make a mistake?
• Why will the choice between two roads that seem very much alike make such a big difference many years later?
Image, Metaphor, and Symbol

• Image – means what it is
• Metaphor – means something other than what it is
• Symbol – means what it is and something more, too
Image, Metaphor, or Symbol?

- “You can’t teach an old dog new tricks.”
- “Some dirty dog stole my wallet yesterday.”
- “A shaggy brown dog was rubbing its back against a white picket fence.”
“A Noiseless Patient Spider”
by Walt Whitman

• Personification
• Imagery
• Apostrophe
• How does this poem go beyond metaphor and to symbolism?
• Compare to “Harlem.” Why is the dream as a bomb a metaphor and Whitman’s description of a striving human soul as a spider a symbol?
“The Sick Rose”
By William Blake

• On a literal level, what is going on in this poem?
• For what might the rose be a symbol?
• The worm?
A warning!

• Symbols might be open to our interpretation, but whatever our interpretation, it must be firmly tied to the facts of the poem.
Allegory

• A narrative or description that has a second meaning beneath the surface.

• The surface story or description might be interesting on its own, but the author’s main interest is the ulterior meaning.

• Meanings are typically more definite than with symbols.
“Peace”
by George Herbert

• Identify the following:
  – Prince
  – Flock and fold
  – Twelve stalks of wheat
  – Grain
  – Bread
  – Secret cave
  – Rainbow
  – Garden
“The Writer”
by Richard Wilbur

• What comparison is being made in lines 1-15?
• Why would this “easy figure” be rejected?
• What comparison is being made in lines 16-30?
• Which is the stronger, more meaningful comparison?
"Because I could not stop for Death"
By Emily Dickenson

• Who is the speaker?
• What is the setting?
• To what is “Death” being compared?
• What might some symbols be in this poem?
• How could this be an allegory?
Poems of Self

• Write a poem that helps the reader know you better. Use imagery, similes, metaphors, personification, and/or apostrophe.

• Trade poems with a partner. Identify moments in the poems that you really like. Also identify the use of figurative language.

• Are there places where figurative language could be used more effectively?

• Revise to be turned in next time.
Poems of Self

everytime
  i hear the sound of their gate
  rush to the window
  at the end of my room to see
  who opened their gate
  and if it's him
  i smile

  why does my heart seem to always
  look for him? and when his presence comes
  i wish he'd be away!
  far away from me
  because his arms and feet maybe near me
  but his heart and mind is
  not with me

  sometimes all I want to do is to look at him... simply looking at him,
  him with no name, no status, and no possession
  the one who was
  loved by God
even before he

  made his first steps, sounded his first word, sang his first song
  God blessed him... God loved him... God made him near me...
  but I never wished his was mine,
  yet in my dreams, i did
  every prayer, every song, and every beat of my heart is all given to him
  the melodies of my song every time i look at him are filled with beauty and peace
  and in that prayer I never really did wish he's mine but instead,
  i wish that God may bless his mind to choose righteousness
  i wish that God may bless his physical body to overcome obstacles and challenges
  obstacles that may harm his body and challenges that may stain his unclean purity
  I also wished for the blessing of his heart,
  that it may love greater than what it receives
  and finally, the blessing of his family,
  that they may guide him to the right way where he can find God
  To him, I also offer every beat of my heart,
  but the contentious beating of my heart
  that keeps on getting faster
  just to follow his, is getting tired
  i'm loving him
  but he never sees it
  and if he did
  all my worlds will collide, crash and burn

  Why?
  For friendship
  remains him near me
  even though his heart and mind is away, his
  physical presence still lies with in me
  and the moment he knew about this silent music of mine
  all the made friendship will fall and burn down
  and that, my friend, is worst than keeping him, not fully, but still with me