

Wonder of Poetry and the Value of the Creative Process

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Thomas A. Burns PhD.

Klamath Falls, Oregon

My Poetic Process

- 1) To start, I am piqued by some thought, phrase, image, etc. that becomes invested with an emotional charge. This is the basis for the initial “subject” and it motivates the subsequent move to begin “development.”
- 2) Development occurs when I enter an analogical cognitive state that emphasizes synthesis, envelopes this “subject,” and informs the writing process.
- 3) In this process, I allow a flow of language to be expressed in the form of a threaded sequence of condensed written “statements” [often stanzas] that collectively reveal a path of “meaning” from a beginning to an “ending.”
- 4) Different poetry traditions and genres rely more or less on formal structures which I may elect to use/follow.
- 5) In addition to condensed written statement, I often rely on a rhythmic underpinning for the expression, the use of metaphor, the repetition of sounds, and the merging of phenomena that are kept separate in intellectual understanding.
- 6) My poetic process is very fluid, carrying me to a conclusion/destination that may be only loosely related to what initially motivated me.
- 7) Through the medium of language, I end up hopefully expressing in my poetry something meaningful for both myself and others and doing so in a compressed, original and stimulating way.

Condensed, synthetically inspired, emotionally charged verbal expression is essential to all poetry and what distinguishes it from expository writing. [My View]

Comments on the Creative Process in General

- 1) The creative process underlies all of the many forms of true art [as distinguished from sensational entertainment]. Poetry is one of these art forms.
- 2) This process engages an alternative mind set and perspective on reality.
- 3) Intellect and analysis reside at the periphery in this process – engaged periodically and secondarily mostly at “pause” points of reflection/assessment.
- 4) Intuition and inspirational synthesis are fundamental in this process.

Importance of the Creative Process

- 1) By engaging in this creative process, we experience ourselves, our lives, and our surrounding reality in a more fluid, more transactional, less rigid way.
- 2) The creative process is one way we evoke and explore a “spiritual” or energetic or subjective perspective on reality.
- 3) By one means or another, all humans need experiences to be an integral part of their lives that transport them to this “spiritual” perspective.
- 4) To the extent that we exclude or demean this experience and perspective, we invite imbalance in ourselves and our societies in multiple, unproductive ways.