

Colors Passing Through Us

by Marge Piercy

Read the following poem. Annotate as you read. Determine every color that is mention and associate it with its objects (noun or pronoun) as describe in the poem. The poem is filled with imagery to convey denotation, connotation, simile, and figurative language devices. After reading the poem write your own poem of color using figurative devices to convey its meaning. The poem must be clean and consist of five to six stanzas with four to five lines per stanza. Your original poem is due on TIN. Use Title, Paraphrase, Connotation, Attitude-tone Shift, Title, and Theme, to help with the annotation of the poem. Below are the explanations for each acronym-TPCASTT. **MLA Heading, TYPE ARIAL, 1.5 space, 12 size. Submit your original poem on Turnitin.com. Give it an original title. Bring the annotated poem to class.**

Purple as tulips in May, mauve
into lush velvet, purple
as the stain blackberries leave
on the lips, on the hands,
the purple of ripe grapes
sunlit and warm as flesh.

Every day I will give you a color,
like a new flower in a bud vase
on your desk. Every day
I will paint you, as women
color each other with henna
on hands and on feet.

Red as henna, as cinnamon,
as coals after the fire is banked,
the cardinal in the feeder,
the roses tumbling on the arbor
their weight bending the wood
the red of the syrup I make from petals.

Orange as the perfumed fruit
hanging their globes on the glossy tree,
orange as pumpkins in the field,
orange as butterflyweed and the monarchs
who come to eat it, orange as my
cat running lithe through the high grass.

Yellow as a goat's wise and wicked eyes,
yellow as a hill of daffodils,
yellow as dandelions by the highway,
yellow as butter and egg yolks,
yellow as a school bus stopping you,
yellow as a slicker in a downpour.

Here is my bouquet, here is a sing
song of all the things you make
me think of, here is oblique
praise for the height and depth
of you and the width too.
Here is my box of new crayons at your feet.

Green as mint jelly, green
as a frog on a lily pad twanging,
the green of cos lettuce upright
about to bolt into opulent towers,
green as Grand Chartreuse in a clear
glass, green as wine bottles.

Blue as cornflowers, delphiniums,
bachelors' buttons. Blue as Roquefort,
blue as Saga. Blue as still water.
Blue as the eyes of a Siamese cat.
Blue as shadows on new snow, as a spring
azure sipping from a puddle on the blacktop.

Cobalt as the midnight sky
when day has gone without a trace
and we lie in each other's arms
eyes shut and fingers open
and all the colors of the world
pass through our bodies like strings of fire.

Complete the literary analysis for the poem. Apply TPCASTT

T-title – observation what do you think the message of the poem based on the title

P-paraphrase- writing in your own word the message of the poem

C-connotation- words or phrases that is different, as a unique meaning to the poem

A-attitude-author's tone, stated or implied

S-shift – the change of the narrator's thoughts, ideas, message, speech

T-theme- message the narrator is conveying

T- title – revisit the title for true meaning, message of the poem, the narrator's idea

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