

We Turn to Poems Like We Turn to Prayer

It seems that
in times of tragedy
we to turn to lines of poetry
because when a poem
lingers in the blood
it knits a shawl around the heart

Poems
want to tell the truth
in ways the heart can hear
and paint
with colored strokes
a world grown newsprint gray

Budget shortfalls
go to war
weapons of mass destruction
words of current news reporting
spreading terror
slapping us silly with anxiety

We turn to poems
like we turn to prayer
because of fear
because of hunger
because the soul refuses
all but the truth.