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Poems

C. Glennon Rowell
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

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Poems by C. Glennon Rowell

The Joys of Books

Books take us away to enchanted lands—
To places beyond the sea.
To castles on mountains far away—
To lands of mystery.

Books take us back to the long ago—
To tales of kings and queens.
To warriors wearing shining armor—
Who conquered enemies mean.

Books tell us about tomorrows to come—
To glorious new worlds ahead.
About unheard of, unthinkable ideas—
Imagination waiting to be read.

Books tell us about endearing romances—
Great loves that'll forever last.
And about lost loves and grief therein,
In the present and in the past.

Books are to be read and read and read—
Their values can never be told.
Their joys will forever be with us—
Their pleasures will forever unfold.



Spelling Woes

Teacher, why doesn't *s-e-d* spell *said*?
When *b-e-d* spells *bed* and *r-e-d* spells *red*?

And then there's *fed*, and *wed*, and *led*—
And *T-e-d* for my cousin *Ted*.

And why doesn't *w-e-a-r-d* spell *weird*—
Since *b-e-a-r-d* spells *beard*?

And why doesn't *c-o-f-f* spell *cough*—
It clearly always ends in *off*?

And why doesn't *p-a-d-e* spell *paid*—
When *m-a-d-e* spells *made* and *f-a-d-e* is *fade*?

Teacher, trying to spell is simply crazy—
With rules that are fuzzy and logic that's hazy.



Usage Woes

In writing—I oft' wonder what to say:
Should I use *can* or should I use *may*?

Should I use *whom* or is it *who*?
A simple quandary—what should I do?

More trouble comes with *which* and *that*.
They're not as easy as *sit* and *sat*.

With *lie* and *lay*—I scratch my head.
A wrong choice here—my face turns red.

But oh those problems with *sit* and *set*!
On which one to use—I'd never bet.

Is it *a book* or *the book*—what do you think?
Some choices in usage make my heart sink.

In classes we've learned word usage and why—
But for words cited above—Which rules apply?

So here's hoping I've made the right selections—
Helping eliminate those red-inked corrections.

*C. Glennon Rowell is a faculty at the
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN.*

