[Poetry is] the first light-giver to **ignorance**. — Philip Sidney

Poetry *is a* ***sword of lightning****, ever unsheathed, which consumes the scabbard that would contain it.* —Percy Bysshe Shelley

*If I read a book and it makes my whole body so* ***cold*** *no fire can ever warm me, I know that is poetry.* – Emily Dickinson

*Poets fear* ***wisdom****.* — James Longenbach

*Poetry is my* ***deepest health***. — Sylvia Plath

*Poems are* ***moments’ monuments***. — Sylvia Plath

*A poem is* ***never finished****, only abandoned*. — Paul Valéry

Poetry *is just the* ***evidence*** *of life. If your life is burning well,* poetry *is just the ash*. — Leonard Cohen.

*Poetry is when an* ***emotion*** *has found its* ***thought****, and the thought has found* ***words****.* — Robert Frost

*[Lyric as a form] stands or falls on the* ***accuracy*** *of* ***language*** *with which it reports the author’s* ***emotional responses*** *to the life around him*. — Helen Vendler

*Genuine poetry can* ***communicate before it is understood***. — T. S. Eliot

*I would define, in brief, the poetry of words, as the* ***rhythmical creation of beauty****.* — Edgar Allan Poe

*The poem: a prolonged* ***hesitation between sound and sense****.* — Paul Valéry

*Poet is the One Who, on Behalf of Others and for their Benefit, Maintains a Friendship with* ***Language****.* — Petr Borkovec

*Poetry is* ***words****.* — A. C. Bradley

*Poetry is* ***language*** *at its most distilled and most powerful.* — Rita Dove

*A poet is, before anything else, a person who is passionately in love with* ***language****.* — W. H. Auden

*Poetry is the form of* ***supreme locution*** *in any cultur*e. — Joseph Brodsky

*[P]oetry is the* ***universal possession of mankind****, revealing itself everywhere and at all times in hundreds and hundreds of men. [...] National literature is now an unmeaning terms; the epoch of world literature is at hand.* — J. W. Goethe