

In Other Words

Sometimes when you read a poem, it can be difficult to understand what the poet means. One way of trying to understand a poem is to go through it line by line, rewriting it in your mind using simpler words. This activity, called paraphrasing, can help you understand the idea behind the words. It can also make you appreciate how great the author's words were in the first place.

Directions: Read "Bat" and paraphrase each line written below.
Use a dictionary to look up words you don't understand.

What the Poem Says	In Other Words
<p>I. Taking dust and Clay for his Colors</p>	<p>I. _____ _____ _____</p>
<p>II. Aloof from The gaudy sun</p>	<p>II. _____ _____ _____</p>
<p>III. Like a grim Flake of flint</p>	<p>III. _____ _____ _____</p>
<p>IV. The lighthearted lavas Of the sun</p>	<p>IV. _____ _____ _____</p>

Write Now!

Choose your favorite line from the poem, and write what it means to you.
Use your own words, like you practiced above, to describe the image this line makes you see.