Ekphrastic Reflection

by

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This piece of writing is one of eight ekphrastic reflections written by Notre Dame Creative Writing MFA students. Ekphrasis has been defined as a literary device in which a painting, sculpture, or other work of visual art is described in detail. Today, many contemporary writers use ekphrasis to translate existing visual artworks into new poems and stories. Does this ekphrastic reflection make you see the artwork in a new way?

APAPHASIS

Luke 7:35 But wisdom is vindicated by all her children.
to love i felt the need to hate fully first
to please leave the message at the beep
"I don't think the ducks care."
i named my pup
donald tinkerbell
loud clap clap clap
he wants to cut off feet
is he behaving himself?
doubts, frustrations, unplacable ire
was I?
cathartic crisis
me? Adrenaline and
because it brings me joy?
wrong — flat earth wrong. my feet.

*A note. As indicated in the program, Claire Murphy's *Intervention* utilizes "leftover materials from her other works." In my poem, *Apaphasis* I use leftover materials as well, my own notes, which I printed, cut, taped, then dotted with markers. The title contains a typo, as notes frequently do: Apophasis. The quote is torn from my journal; it reads, *Luke 7:35 But wisdom is vindicated by all her children*. Two final things: the poem's a sonnet; its colors are inspired by Murphy's.