Definitions for Poetry Terms

(that cannot be found in the glossary)

Epiphany: that moment in the story where a character achieves realization, awareness or a feeling of knowledge after which events are seen through the prism of this new light in the story

Petrarchan sonnet: a sonnet form popularized by Petrarch, consisting of an octave with the rhyme scheme abbaabba and of a sestet with one of several rhyme schemes, as cdecde or cdcdcd.

Octave: a poem or stanza consisting of eight lines

Extended simile: a simile that expands past one line; continues to describe the comparison

Foot: combination of stressed and unstressed syllables

Slant rhyme: a type of rhyme formed by words with similar but not identical sounds

End rhyme: when a poem has lines ending with words that sound the same.

Enjambment: a thought or sense, phrase or clause in a line of poetry that does not come to an end at the line break but moves over to the next line