**Trio House Press**

**Poetry Now**

**Lesson Plan**

***Topic:*** How imagery and diction is used to depict the poem’s meaning.

***Lesson Title:*** *Your Immaculate Heart* by Annmarie O’Connell

***Level:*** Secondary School or College

***Lesson Duration:*** N/A

***Lesson Objectives:***

Examine how a poet can use concrete and abstract images to convey the feeling and meaning of a poem.

***Summary of Tasks/ Actions:***

* First read Annmarie O’Connell’s “In the End”
	+ What are the concrete images of the poem? What are the abstract images of the poem? How are they working together?
	+ What are the connotations of the words used to described the woman?
	+ What are the connotations of the woman’s actions?
	+ How do those two connotations conflict?
	+ What image does the line, “offer you her last cup of light,” portray? What does O’Connell’s use of the word “light” tell us about the narrator? What does it tell us about the woman?
* Now, read Annmarie O’Connell’s “MEN”
	+ The first poem in this section, “Man Sitting by the Roadside”, repeats the word “deliver”. What connotation does “deliver” have? Does the connotation change when associated with men?
	+ What are the concrete images in the poem? What are the abstract images? How are they working together? What is the overall image they create?
	+ Compare the woman’s apologetic gaze in “In the End” to the man’s hungry one. How do those conflicting images affect the character of each? What does this say about gender roles?
	+ Read the poem “The Man Who Lives in the Abandoned Garage” What are the concrete images? What are the abstract images? How do these images differ from “Man Sitting by the Roadside”?
	+ Compare the searching gaze from the man in the garage to the hungry gaze from the man by the roadside. What do the gazes tell us about each man?
	+ How does the image of hands differ in the two poems?
	+ How does the connotation of each poem alter the overall feeling and meaning? Discuss how the narrator feels about the two men. What is your evidence?

***Materials/ Equipment:***

**Poems by Annmarie O’Connell:**

O'Connell, Annmarie. *Your Immaculate Heart*. Trio House Press, 2016.