

St Mary's Poetry Competition 2024: Unity and Connection

Obverse: two sides of the same coin

The canopy of the evening sky – an indigo sight,
illuminated by a light
and more and more identical beams.

They are visible
from all houses, found
in every city and town:
a network of shimmering cables,
where
all are connected,
and none neglected.

Every house
a flood of brilliance
yet shadows can be discerned
lurking within four slabs of concrete

One boy
one monitor
five monsters to demolish

One father
one monitor
five texts to acknowledge

One mother
one monitor
one family she hasn't conversed with
in five days

and five photos
five photos to upload
onto Instagram

Effulgence or obscurity,
network or walls,
company or solitude,
reality or virtual:
On which side of these obverses do we stand?

Shielded by
an obsidian veil
gleaming artificially
with the intensity
of starlight
Brightness
shadows
yet to be distinguished.

By Stephanie C., Year 10