Bourne toWrite...
creative writing workshops

# Now You See Them – Now You Don't (07/07/2022)

by Lou Beckerman

Now you see them - now you don't
You will or you won't...
Our seasoned chameleons
in a heartbreak of hues
choose the view they
wish to convey; play
hide-and-seek
(ever hiding not seeking)
as sleekly they tweak
and mould mystique
lest risking critique;
shapeshifting, drifting
or swiftly switching shades;
their out-sides
belying their in-sides

Now you see them - now you
don't see
bruise-black or a scalding of scarlet, but
a pomp of purple in the inner circle
Not a bitter of orange
or an envy of green
with their amazing flair to be
seen to fit in or stow away
into a shadow of
ashen-greys

Now you see them - now you don't
They'll beige their rage and
rise with sass
in the razzamatazz
from ground-down-brown
to a vibrant topaz
super-arty and
prompt to the party (as
late entry
may announce
some existence)
Or, absorbing their brilliance,
their too-bright-white light,
they'll feign
tickled-pink while veiling
the heartsink of
a shrinking wilting
violet

Now you see them - now you don't
Our kaleidoscope of chameleons
carries on afloat
in a counterfeit of colour
or a misery of magnolia
Just don't judge these books
by their covers
It's a cover-up
as long as
they show-up