

Bourne
toWrite...
creative writing
workshops

Honesty

by Fran Duffield

If honesty is fire,
it burns deep,
through the outer skin

If honesty is water,
Its depths sweep all away,
roots drowned in air

If honesty is earth,
it opens a pit
of the unspeakable

If honesty is air,
it blows into matchwood
our last defences

if honesty is the best policy,
its shining weight crushes
our fragile mistakes

Better to hold our peace,
silence our righteous tongues
sometimes give instead the tender lie