Bourne toWrite...
creative writing workshops

Dark Lantern

by Fran Duffield

When it all
came undone
when the roof
of certainty fell in
after I sought shelter
after I writhed free
from the straitjacket
when I lay furious
and helpless
in another cotton gown
tied tight at the back
I crawled back
to what is called
real life

and in the dim
light I saw you
and thought at last

a glimmer
a light at the end of the dark
in your smiling ways
when you were all kindness
when you didn't seem
to mind it all

but after you lost
your wings
after you fell
from grace
after your absence
after your excuses
when I lay furious
and helpless in the dark
while you turned
your light elsewhere

that's when I realised
that light that had been
at the end of the tunnel
was just
another train