

Comment on the Figures of Speech Used in the Poem “Delight in Disorder”.

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In Robert Herrick's (1591-1634) poem “Delight in Disorder” (1634), the poet explores the idea that small imperfections can be beautiful. He praises the charm in disorderly clothes. The poem is full of figures of speech that make it interesting and lively. Let's look at these figures of speech and understand their role.

Personification: The poet uses personification when he says, “*Kindles in clothes a wantonness.*” Here, “wantonness” (a playful or mischievous quality) is made to seem alive, as if clothes can start it. This gives the clothes a lively, almost magical quality.

Metaphor: Another figure of speech is metaphor. For example, “*An erring lace, which here and there enthralls the crimson stomacher.*” The lace is compared to something that can “enthrall,” or captivate, the stomacher, giving it a sense of action. The lace is not just a piece of cloth; it is described as having power over the other parts of the dress.

Alliteration: Herrick also uses alliteration. This is when words in a line begin with the same sound. For instance, “*A winning wave, deserving note*” uses the repetition of the 'w' sound. This makes the poem sound musical and pleasant. **Imagery:** There is also imagery in the poem. Words like “*crimson stomacher*” and “*tempestuous petticoat*” help us to imagine the scene clearly.

These images make the poem more vivid and engaging. In conclusion, Herrick's use of figures of speech makes the poem lively. It helps us see the beauty in imperfection and enjoy the disorderly charm.