

Can Images Transform a Poem? *When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer*: An Example of a Poetry Picturebook

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Abstract

This article analyzes *When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer*, which we consider to be an example of a poetry picturebook, a kind of text belonging to the field of children's literature which is characterized by the interaction between a poetic text and a sequence of illustrations. In this case, visual narrative adds a story to the poem and incorporates some visual poetic structures. Text and pictures become a unit, whose sense is created through the complex interaction of visual and verbal. The result is a new work incorporating a personal interpretation of the original Walt Whitman poem, adapted for child readers.

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