
POETRY | FALL 2015

Comma

By L.N. Allen

He fell into a comma
wrote one of my students
to which I responded
with a circled *sp*
that could almost have been taken
for a smile emoticon,
the closest I'd come to a smile
for far too long. If we have to fall
(and we all have to fall)
what better place to fall into
than a soft, harmless comma,
a nano-second rest, a breath,
followed by the rest
of a long life sentence.

L.N. Allen is a writer whose most recent poems can be found in *Anglican Theological Review*, *Christianity and Literature*, and *Afternoon Light*. She is currently preparing for publication a manuscript tentatively titled *Be Always Coming Home*.

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