

THE OFFERING

There's a saying in poetry circles:
"There's no money in poetry
and no poetry in money."

It's a saying I took for granted & used to quote,
until the day I realized it's not quite true.

In truth, there IS a little money in poetry
—not much, for sure—
but whether it's the nominal fee a poet receives
for a reading, or the slim profit a publisher makes
by putting out a poetry book, or even
the modest salary a teacher earns for leading
a poetry workshop, the fact remains
there is a LITTLE money in poetry.

Which leads to the second part of the saying:
"There's no poetry in money."
Is that true?
Or—just as it's closer to the truth
to claim there's a little money in poetry—
is it fair to follow that up, by adding
there's a LITTLE poetry in money?

Let me take this occasion to suggest
that maybe the answer is *yes*.

The offering will now be gratefully received.