The article “Staying Close” sparks thoughts about the meaning of love. The article shows that love has many faces. The idea about her husband supporting her when she was sick is like the “experiences shape relationships” theme. Their relationship was stronger when the writer realizes love is infinite and can’t be quantified. The kind of love her husband shows is support and encouragement. Her husband never stops encouraging her and helping her because he loves her, and she hopes she will do the same if her husband needs help.

My poem:

The Spirit of Love

Encouragement elevates

my soul,

and settles down to

heal my despair.

It is the warmth of a blanket

tucked around as you sleep.

It is a rope thrown out

as you struggle to swim.

It is the food all prepared

as you trudge back home.

Farewell metaphors: Life is the “flash of a firefly in the night.” The image is clear, a light in the darkness for a short time. Life is “the breath of a buffalo in the winter time.” The breath floats in the air, then it’s gone. Life is “the little shadow that runs across the grass and loses itself in the sunset.” The shadow is gone when the sun goes down. The poem means that life is very short, and nobody knows what comes before or after.

From the article: “love has the opportunity to become stronger when one partner learns to lean on the other.”

