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*Roger McGough*

## The Faithful Swallow

When summer shone  
Its sweetest on  
An August day,  
'Here evermore,'  
I said, 'I'll stay;  
Not go away  
To another shore  
As fickle they!'

December came:  
'Twas not the same!  
I did not know  
Fidelity  
Would serve me so.  
Frost, hunger, snow;  
And now, ah me,  
Too late to go!

(Thomas Hardy)

## **Fire and Ice**

Some say the world will end in fire,

Some say in ice.

From what I've tasted of desire

I hold with those who favor fire.

But if it had to perish twice,

I think I know enough of hate

To say that for destruction ice

Is also great

And would suffice.

(Robert Frost)