Magic of Love

There’s a wonderful gift that can give you a lift
It’s a blessing from heaven above.
It can comfort and bless, it can bring happiness-
It’s the wonderful MAGIC OF LOVE

Like a star in the night, it can keep your faith bright,
Like the sun, it can warm your hearts, too-
It’s a gift you can give everyday that you live
And when given it comes back to you!

When love lights the way, there is joy in the day
And all troubles are lighter to bear,
Love is gentle and kind, and through love you will find
There’s an answer to your every prayer!

May it never depart from your two loving hearts,
May you treasure this gift from above-
You will find if you do, all your dreams will come true
In the wonderful MAGIC OF LOVE!

Love Poem

My clumsiest dear, whose hands shipwreck vases,
At whose quick touch all glasses chip and ring,
Whose palms are bulls in china, burs in linen,
And have no cunning with any soft thing

Except all ill-at-ease fidgeting people:
The refugee uncertain at the door
You make at home; deftly you steady
The drunk clambering on his undulant floor.

Unpredictable dear, the taxi drivers' terror,
Shrinking from far headlights pale as a dime
Yet leaping before apopleptic streetcars—
Misfit in any space. And never on time.

A wrench in clocks and the solar system. Only
With words and people and love you move at ease;
In traffic of wit expertly maneuver
And keep us, all devotion, at your knees.
Forgetting your coffee spreading on our flannel,
Your lipstick grinning on our coat,
So gaily in love's unbreakable heaven
Our souls on glory of spilt bourbon float.

Be with me, darling, early and late. Smash glasses—
I will study wry music for your sake.
For should your hands drop white and empty
All the toys of the world would break.
Analysis

Although *Magic of Love*, by Helen Farries, and *Love Poem*, by John Frederick Nims, have the same topic and general point, they are incredibly different poems. *Magic of Love* comes across as a song like, greeting card style poem, while *Love Poem* is much more formal, and written with more emotion. This is caused by the author’s word choice.

Both poems have the same rhyme scheme, that is, the second and fourth line of every stanza rhyme. However, *Magic of Love* is much more detached. It speaks of love as a whole, generalized for everyone. There is no personal information in the poem, instead it speaks of love bringing happiness and joy and comfort, of love warming your hands, and of love lighting your way.

*Love Poem* is much more personal. The speaker talks of memories, and of a certain person which they are in love with. He describes his love, talking about her never being on tim, of her being clumsy, and of her walking into the road without looking (“Unpredictable dear, the taxi drivers’ terror, Shrinking from far headlights pale as a dime yet leaping before apopleptic streetcars—”).

However the biggest difference is what they say about love. *Magic of Love* portrays love as something that is perfect, that fixes everything. It is the light that guides you, it warms you, it makes your dreams come true. It is gentle and kind, and perfect. However, *Love Poem* speaks not about what the love does right, but her imperfections, her clumsiness, her habit of never being on time. The speaker looks at his love, with all of her faults, and still loves her, which is what the poem in about.
These small differences twist the poems in completely different ways. Farries’ poem is one that belong in a greeting card, or perhaps a love song. It makes me think of the beginning of a relationship, when everything is happy and new and you feel like you’re walking on air. Nims’ poem is farther down the line, when you know more about your love and although you can see everything that’s wrong, you still love them. Because of that, I find I like Love Poem much more than Magic of Love.