

Bathroom Verse

You clean bathrooms like I write poetry.
With elán, eloquently but thoroughly,
Always focussed on the goal -
Clean, sparkling, sanitary - without
Dirt's obfuscation, as I strive for
Clarity in verse, without
Irrelevant imagery interfering.
You polish faucets as I polish metaphors,
See yourself in reflecting words,
Shining, spotless sinks,
Erasing grime like elided vowels.
Alliteration echoed in
Sweep of broom,
Swish of mop,
Swirl of swab.
My words cleanse your soul
As your scrubbing inspires my showers.

Harlan Richards