

Bad Metaphors

1. Her face was a perfect oval, like a circle that had its two other sides gently compressed by a Thigh Master.
2. His thoughts tumbled in his head, making and breaking alliances like underpants in a dryer without Cling Free.
3. She caught your eye like one of those pointy hook latches that used to dangle from screen doors and would fly up whenever you banged the door open again.
4. The little boat gently drifted across the pond exactly the way a bowling ball wouldn't.
5. McMurphy fell 12 stories, hitting the pavement like a Hefty bag filled with vegetable soup.
6. Her hair glistened in the rain like nose hair after a sneeze.
7. Her eyes were like two brown circles with big black dots in the center.
8. Her vocabulary was as bad as, like, whatever.
9. He was as tall as a six-foot-three-inch tree.
10. The hailstones leaped from the pavement, just like maggots when you fry them in hot grease.
11. Long separated by cruel fate, the star-crossed lovers raced across the grassy field toward each other like two freight trains, one having left Cleveland at 6:36 p.m. traveling at 55 mph, the other from Topeka at 4:19 p.m. at a speed of 35 mph.
12. The politician was gone but unnoticed, like the period after the Dr. on a Dr. Pepper can.
13. They lived in a typical suburban neighborhood with picket fences that resembled Nancy Kerrigan's teeth.

14. John and Mary had never met. They were like two hummingbirds who had also never met.
15. The thunder was ominous sounding, much like the sound of a thin sheet of metal being shaken backstage during the storm scene in a play.
16. The red brick wall was the color of a brick-red Crayola crayon.
17. He fell for her like his heart was a mob informant and she was the East River.
18. Even in his last years, Grandpappy had a mind like a steel trap, only one that had been left out so long it had rusted shut.
19. The door had been forced, as forced as the dialogue during the interview portion of "Jeopardy!"
20. Shots rang out, as shots are wont to do.
21. The plan was simple, like my brother-in-law Phil. But unlike Phil, this plan just might work.
22. The young fighter had a hungry look, the kind you get from not eating for a while.
23. "Oh, Jason, take me!" she panted, her breasts heaving like a college freshman on \$1-a-beer night.
24. He was as lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck either, but a real duck that was actually lame. Maybe from stepping on a land mine or something.
25. Her artistic sense was exquisitely refined, like someone who can tell butter from "I Can't Believe It's Not Butter."
26. She had a deep, throaty, genuine laugh, like that sound a dog makes just before it throws up.

27. It came down the stairs looking very much like something no one had ever seen before.
28. The knife was as sharp as the tone used by Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Tex.) in her first several points of parliamentary procedure made to Rep. Henry Hyde (R-Ill.) in the House Judiciary Committee hearings on the impeachment of President William Jefferson Clinton.
29. The ballerina rose gracefully en pointe and extended one slender leg behind her, like a dog at a fire hydrant.
30. The revelation that his marriage of 30 years had disintegrated because of his wife's infidelity came as a rude shock, like a surcharge at a formerly surcharge-free ATM.
31. The dandelion swayed in the gentle breeze like an oscillating electric fan set on medium.
32. It was an American tradition, like fathers chasing kids around with power tools.
33. He was deeply in love. When she spoke, he thought he heard bells, as if she were a garbage truck backing up.
34. She was as easy as the "TV Guide" crossword.
35. Her eyes were like limpid pools, only they had forgotten to put in any pH cleanser.
36. She grew on him like she was a colony of E. coli and he was room-temperature Canadian beef.
37. She walked into my office like a centipede with 98 missing legs.
38. Her voice had that tense, grating quality, like a first-generation thermal paper fax machine that needed a band tightened.
39. It hurt the way your tongue hurts after you accidentally staple it to the wall.

40. Every minute without you feels like 60 seconds.
41. The horizon swallowed the setting sun like a dog sucking an egg, but not quite.
42. From the attic came an unearthly howl. The whole scene had an eerie, surreal quality, like when you're on vacation in another city and Jeopardy comes on at 7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30.