Parliamentary Incendiary

We do not want Parliament set afire

By anything but *Passion* to do right.

What must blaze Commons and Senate are sheets

Of paper, that Wisdom and Justice light.

What happened in 1916—those sparks

That Chance or Choice set charring the public

House of parley (which gives the *Throne* the *Law*)—

Proved true, eternal flame is the power to speak.

© George Elliott Clarke Parliamentary Poet Laureate