



Image from Open Art

Diane Webster

Men at Work

On the scaffold three men
face the façade of the building.

The two bookend men
wear full-body coveralls
like CSI Halloween costumes.
The man in the middle wears
denim jeans and a red hoodie
flipped up to cover his head.
From ground level
they never move.

Are they real men
working on the building?
Are they statues
temporarily displayed
to see if they fit
on the ledge in modern
art stances for crowds
below to point at,
shield their eyes from sunrise,
watch for motionless
to move into motion,
listen for clenched-mouth
help that hopefully
doesn't tip the weight
of the scaffold into
three men falling
like so many beads
from a string?

Diane Webster's work has appeared in *El Portal*, *North Dakota Quarterly*, *Eunoia Review*, and other literary magazines. She says that her "goal is to remain open to poetry ideas in every-day life, nature or an overheard phrase."