Stapled

Understand clearly the staple invention,
Metal "U" chosen to crimp precisely,
Points to penetrate like stingers, needles,
Platen to control bend against-grip & hold.

For big reports with words following words
Like ants or lemmings, sheets, rows & columns
Of numbers like a military parade
Holding an invasion in our hands.
Sheets of music, lists of things to do,
Visa receipts from dinner,
Lab reports complete with
Valley chromatograms, mammograms
Kid’s Crayola production for the day.

Shudder when I staple poems together.
Seems like handcuff, at gun point duress,
Chaining slaves together & forcing
A common fate--if one drowned they all did.
Like shishkebobing & skewering individuals
Poems bleeding into, onto each other,
Soaked in the same marinade, eaten
By the same indiscriminating carnivore,
Though the poem was vegetarian.
Kind of genetic mutation changing
Word patterns, meanings, creating confusion
Where flashing yellow meant red or green.
Going to use paperclips from now on.