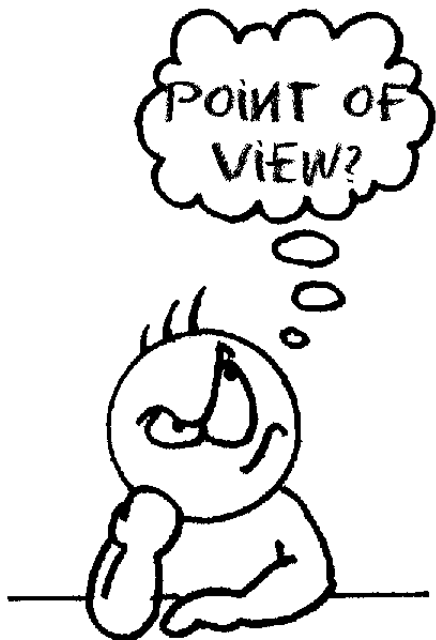




# POINT OF VIEW



Every poem (just like every story) is told using a point of view. Through whose eyes does the poet tell his or her story? Who is the speaker of the poem?



1<sup>st</sup> person – uses I, me, my, etc.  
2<sup>nd</sup> person – uses you  
3<sup>rd</sup> person – uses him, her, them, etc

## THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

*Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;*

*Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,*

*And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.*

*I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.*

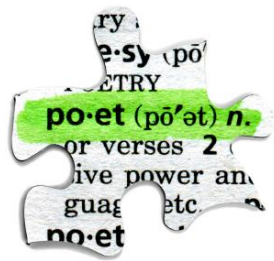
# 1st person

## HOLD FAST YOUR DREAMS

*Louise Driscoll*

Hold fast your dreams!  
Within your heart  
Keep one still, secret spot  
Where dreams may go,  
And sheltered so,  
May thrive and grow—  
Where doubt and fear are not.  
Oh, keep a place apart  
Within your heart,  
For little dreams to go.

2<sup>nd</sup>  
person



# TODAY'S POETRY CHALLENGE:

Play with point of view in a poem. Try writing the same poem in different points of view and choose the one that has the most impact.

Use clear pronouns to show in which point of view your poem is written.

There's no length requirement, but since your poem has to clearly show point of view, you're going to have to include at least a few lines to get the whole picture across to your reader.



# NEED A STARTING POINT?

An autobiographical poem is personal. It reveals something about the person writing the poem. It does not have to rhyme. Below is a simple plan to write your own autobiographical poem. Just follow the steps and before you know it you'll be done!

Follow These Steps:

(Remember to end the first and last lines with a period. End all other lines with a comma.)

**Line One:** Write your First and Last Name.

**Line Two:** Write four words that describe you.

**Line Three:** Write "brother or sister of" and then list your siblings. If you don't have any, leave it blank.

**Line Four:** Write "who loves" and then three things you love.

**Line Five:** Write "who feels" and write three things and how you feel about them.

**Line Six:** Write "who needs" and three things you need.

**Line Seven:** Write "who gives" and write three things you give others.

**Line Eight:** Write "who fears" and write three things that scare you.

**Line Nine:** Write "who would like to see" and write three things you would like to see.

**Line Ten:** Write "resident of" and write the town or city you live in.

**Line Eleven:** Write your last name.

# “I AM” POEM EXAMPLE

I am Ms.

Daughter of Ron and Nancy

Who needs personal space, laughter, and words

Who loves my family, my friends, and my work

Who sees the good in everyone

Who hates it when others can't

Who fears failure

Who dreams of falling

Who has found that not everything is at it first appears

Resident of Western PA

Altman

You can even change the point of view!

**Turn the “I am” into...**

**“You are”**



2<sup>nd</sup> Person!

**Or, choose a person to write about {best friend, mom, brother, etc.}...**

**“He is/she is”**



3<sup>rd</sup> Person!