

The Fourteen Choices of a Poem

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Music

+ How does the poem sound?

+ Is there a rhythm, a rhyme, a silence?

+ How do the words play?



Energy

+ How forceful is the work?

+ Does it dance or rush or pause or move slowly?

+ How do we accomplish this?

Titles

+ Do they really matter?

+ How can we make them matter?

+ How can they be a tool?



Form/No Form

+ How can the physical shape or structure or expectations of the poem drive home the piece?

+ What does form offer?



Language/Vernacular

- + Words change, meaning changes, depending on where you're from. How does that fit into poetry?
- + What can be gained/lost?



Emotion

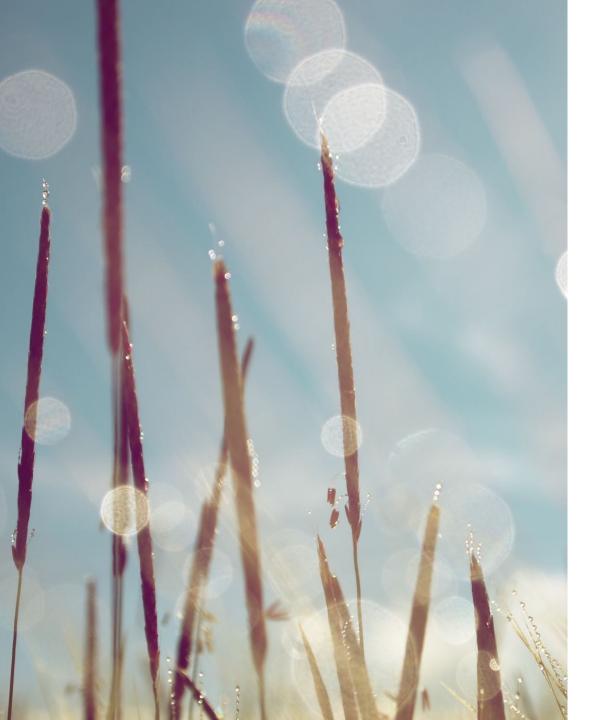
- + Emotion is a landscape.
- + How can it be reflected in a poem?
- + What be gained by abstraction?





Personal/Impersonal

- + Tense
- + First person, etc.
- + Detail use.
- + Names.



Vantage Point

+ How and why are the images in this poem being seen?

+ How close, how sticky?

+ Description is always modified by the vantage.



Truth, Lies, and Everything

+ Are these tactics or a pursuit?

+ Why lie?

+ How does an unreliable narrator work in poetry?



Landscape

- + Place matters.
- + Context matters.
- + Description matters.
- + Are we safe here?

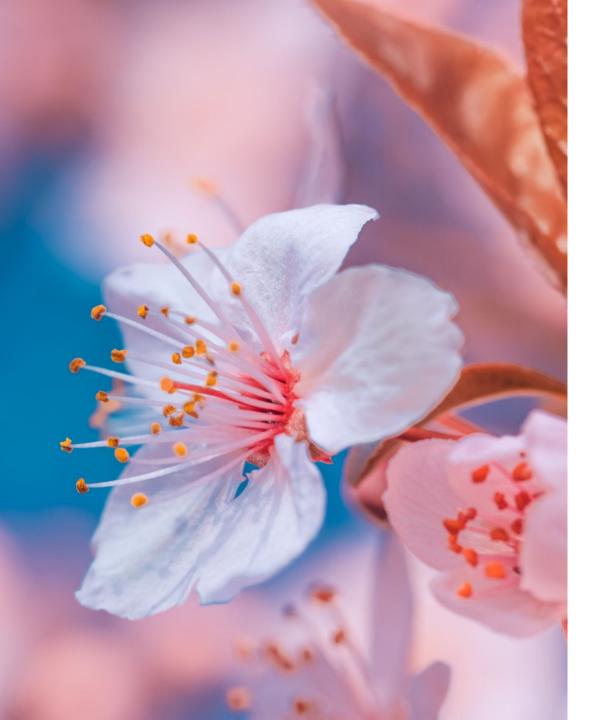
This modern world.

+ AI

+ Technology in writing.

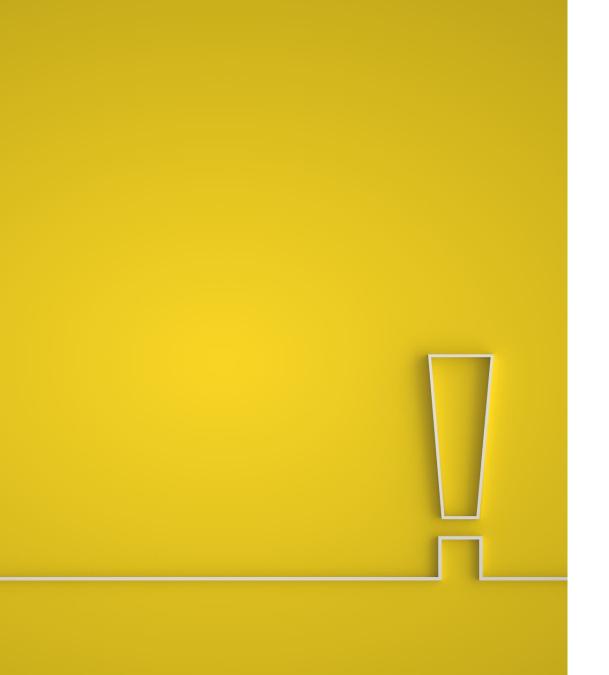
+ Playing with translators.





The Bright & Shiny: Pop Culture in Poetry

- + Movies
- + Music
- + TV
- + Social Media
- + What is lost and what is gained?



Bells & Whistles

How to use punctuation strategically in your poem.



All of it, some of it, none of it...