

Slam Poetry

Is a competition of spoken word poetry.

It is for poets to share original works aloud.

The poem should have rhythm and passion. Although often we see slam poems about injustice slam poems don't have to be angry or sad, they can be humorous.

The delivery of the poem is as important (if not more) than the content of the poem.

Slam poems are rehearsed (memorized) to make for a compelling performance.

Slam poets to name a few:

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| Shane Koyczan "Pork Chops" | Raych Jackson "Period Rules" | Taylor Mali "Totally Like Whatever, You Know" |
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| Sarah Kay "A Bird Made of Birds" | Joseph Capehart "Bad Ideas" | Maia Mayor "Perfect" |
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Free Verse

A poem that does not held to a structure, rhythm or rhyme sequence.
It still has poetic expression.

Edge

By Sylvia Plath

The woman is perfected.
Her dead

Body wears the smile of accomplishment,
The illusion of a Greek necessity

Flows in the scrolls of her toga,
Her bare

Feet seem to be saying:

We have come so far, it is over.

Each dead child coiled, a white serpent,
One at each little

Pitcher of milk, now empty.
She has folded

Them back into her body as petals
Of a rose close when the garden

Stiffens and odors bleed
From the sweet, deep throats of the night flower.

The moon has nothing to be sad about,
Staring from her hood of bone.

She is used to this sort of thing.
Her blacks crackle and drag.



Gone Forever

by Barriss Mills

Halfway through shaving it came--
the word for a poem.

I should have scribbled it
on the mirror with a soapy finger,
or shouted it to my wife in the kitchen,
or muttered it to myself till it ran
in my head like a tune.

But now it's gone with the whiskers
down the drain. Gone forever,
like the girls I never kissed,
and the places I never visited--
the lost lives I never lived.



Fog

by Carl Sandburg

The fog comes
on little cat feet.

It sits looking
over harbor and city
on silent haunches
and then moves on.

