

<b>Question:</b>	<b>Answer:</b>
Why is the <b>title</b> , the title? What does it mean? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Titles are carefully chosen by poets and usually offer more information than you might at first notice.</li> </ul>	<i>"I am a Rock" is a metaphor. It is also a direct attack on Donne's, "no man is an island."</i>
Who is the <b>speaker</b> in the poem? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the speaker young? Old? Wise? Foolish? Male? Female? Trustworthy? Dishonest?</li> </ul>	<i>The speaker sounds emotional and youthful because there is little maturity in lines like, "I have no need of friendship," and, "If I never loved I never would have cried."</i>
What is the poem's setting? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What time of year is it? Inside or Outside? Is there an event going on?</li> </ul>	<i>It is a dark December day, fresh snow is on the ground, and the speaker is looking out his or her window thinking.</i>
What <b>type of poem</b> is it? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lyric or narrative? Sonnet? Free Verse?</li> </ul>	<i>This poem is a lyric—it is intensely emotional and short.</i>
What <b>poetic devices and techniques</b> have been used? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rhyme scheme?</li> <li>Poetic Devices? Look for alliteration, allusion, hyperbole, metaphor, simile, personification, and others.</li> </ul>	<i>Lots of alliteration: "deep and dark December," "freshly fallen," and "my poetry to protect me." No rhyme Besides the central metaphor, there is also the fortress image and the womb image.</i>
What is the <b>tone</b> of the poem? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What feeling word would best describe the overall tone?</li> </ul>	<i>Deep and profound sadness. This person has suffered and wants to be without feeling because "a rock feels no pain."</i>
What is the <b>theme</b> of the poem? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the theme of the poem directly stated or implied?</li> <li>In one sentence, what is the main idea about life presented in the poem?</li> </ul>	<i>In order not to suffer, you must turn inwards and live without other people.  OR  The opposite is really true. You sometimes have to get hurt, to feel loss, even pain, in order to know the beauty of love.</i>
How do <b>you</b> react to the poem? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do you feel after reading the poem? What does the poem make you think of?</li> </ul>	<i>I want to talk to the speaker, like I would talk to a friend, and tell him or her that you can't live with just your books hiding in your room; that's an empty and terrible life.</i>