

I AM POEMS + METAPHORS

LESSON 3

4TH GRADE

MRS. TARONE SEFCHIK

MATERIALS

FOR THIS LESSON

MATERIALS

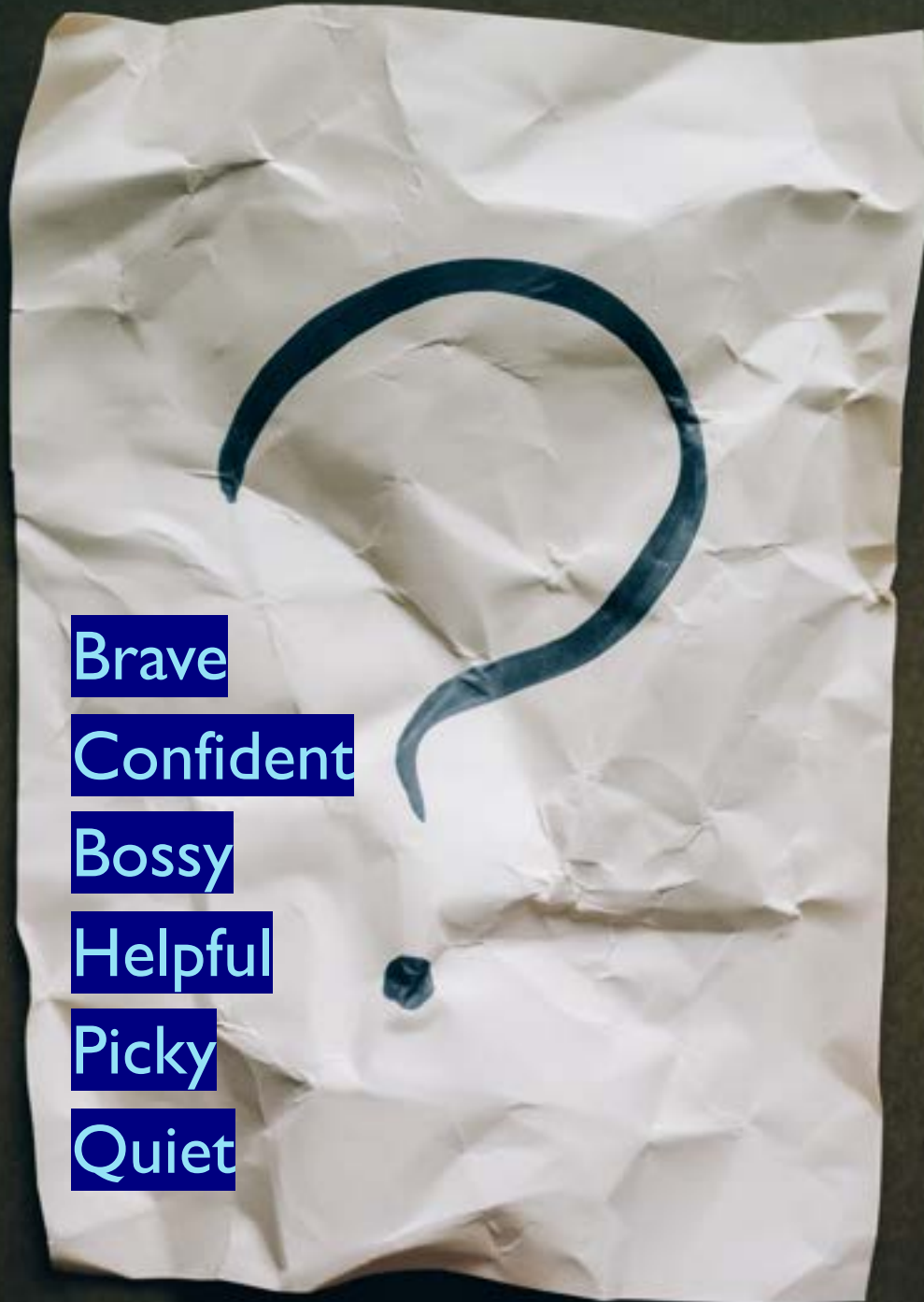


OBJECTIVES

OF THIS LESSON

OBJECTIVES

To discuss character in poetry. To review what metaphor is, learn what a character sketch is, and to write an "I AM" Poem.



Brave

Confident

Bossy

Helpful

Picky

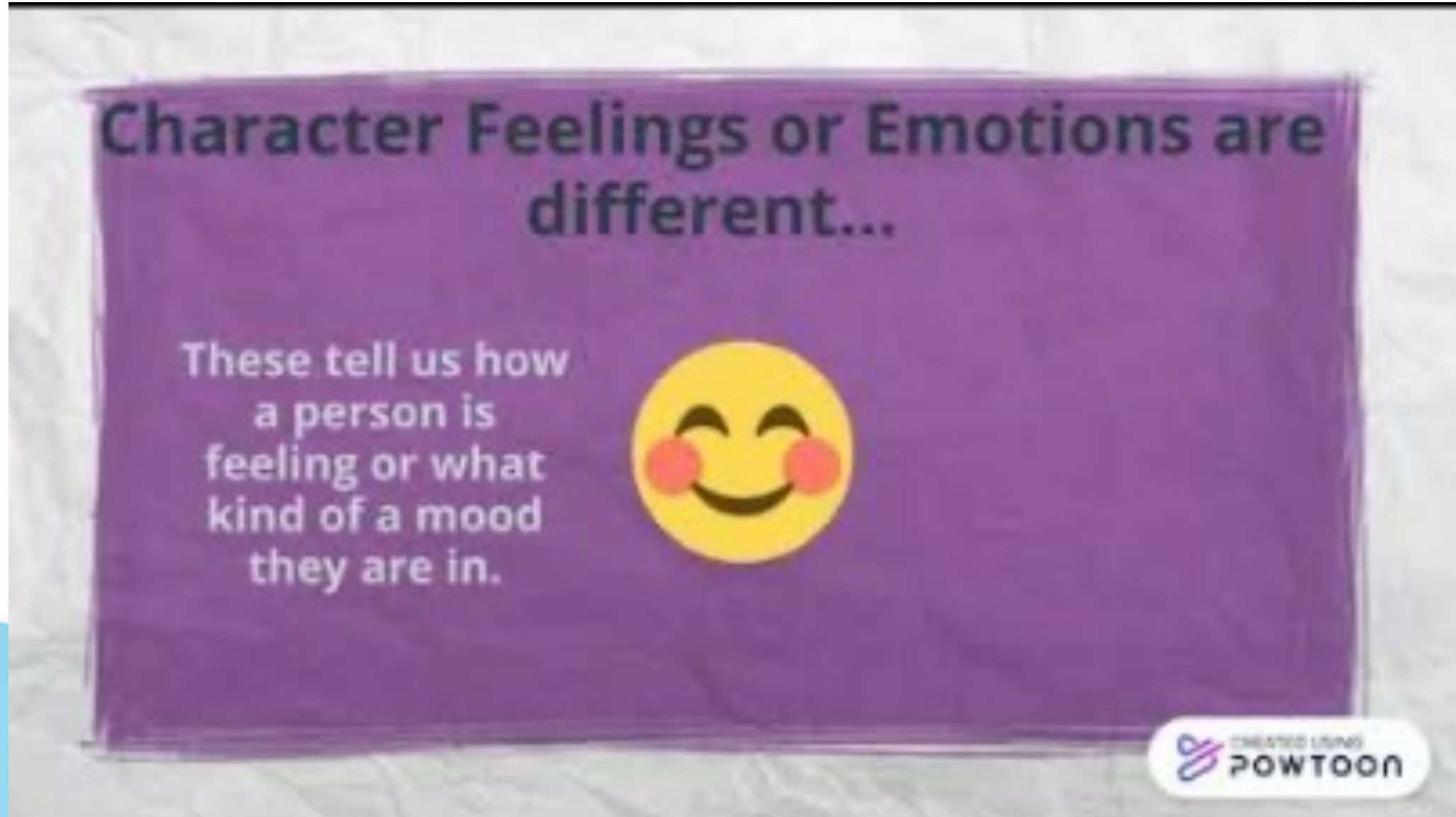
Quiet

WHAT ARE CHARACTER TRAITS?

Actions, qualities that make up a personality. (Real people + fictional characters)

Also know as internal traits.

Character Traits vs. Character Feelings



VOCABULARY

VOCABULARY



INSTRUCTIONS

The Interview

Get your pen or pencil + paper ready...

I will ask a question...

You will write your answer.

Where do you live?

What do you like to do?

What do you dislike?

Now, it's your turn to interview Mrs. Sefchik and me!

What subject do you like in school?

What's your favorite food?

What is a dream you have for the future?



What's one thing you learned today?

LESSON THREE DAY 2

METAPHOR+ METAPHOR WRITING



Review

What are character traits?

Actions, qualities that make up a personality.
(Real people + fictional characters)

Find your interview Q +A from last week.

What can you add to it?

What do you like to do?

What is another dream you
have for the future?

INSTRUCTIONS



Who are you?

In your ArtsLink notebook, write
I AM...

Then pick 2 words from this list (or think of others)
that describe you...

Patient

Kind

Caring

Adventurous

Smart

Cheerful

Friendly

Strong

Creative

Happy

Honest

Athletic

Quiet

Shy

Brave

Funny

Loyal

Hardworking

Neat

Polite

Grateful

Impatient

Scared

Bossy

Moody

Mad

Loud

Poetic Devices

METAPHOR

What is a metaphor?

GROUP METAPHOR WRITING

Let's turn this into a metaphor...

They are loud.

They are...

horns of a ship

groups of birds

barking dog

a group of kids playing video games

a dump truck

cafeteria during lunch

hair dryer

train

sirenhead

an alarm clock

TV

ambulance

kindergarten class

moms



Morning Class



Writing Time!

I am quiet.

I am a whisper.

I am a mouse.

I am the middle of the night.

I am a yoga class.

I am a puzzle.

I am an empty house.

I am a Tesla.

I am snow.

Turn one or two of your I AM sentences into a metaphor.

GROUP METAPHOR WRITING



Let's turn this into a metaphor...

They are loud.

They are...

lions

dog

group of monkeys

whale

birds

tiger

parrot

elephants

ambulance siren

fire alarm

fire trucks

police car

concert

fighting people

thunderstorm

AFTERNOON CLASS



Writing Time!

I am quiet.

I am a whisper.

whispering
mouse
rock
squirrel
walking
fish
crackling of a fire
shark
water
sand

Turn one of your I AM sentences into a metaphor.

“Delta”

By Mrs. Leas

I am a mosaic of Emerald Isle,
Italian leather and gypsy song.

I am swirls of magic,
stories my grandmother told in Slovak,
a language she lived in,
but never taught us.

I am salt. I am water.
Flowing blue to green,
dancing calm to chaos in a white foam dress.

I am sand, a tree or orchid
moving with fire and breeze
in the pine barrens of New Jersey.

I am a delta,
where the Mississippi kisses the Gulf,
a slow approach to open water.

I am the horizon,
the intersection of water and sky.

LESSON THREE DAY 3

REVIEW

I AM POEMS



WHO IS NIKKI GIOVANNI?

Poet

Author of 13 children's books of poetry

Author of 21 books of poetry for adults

Professor



Photo courtesy of: <https://nikki-giovanni.com/press-media/photographs/>



Nikki Giovanni:
Reading
Advice for young
writers

Patient
Kind
Caring
Smart
Cheerful
Friendly
Strong
Creative
Honest
Athletic
Quiet
Shy



Review

What are character traits?

Actions, qualities that make up a personality.
(Real people + fictional characters)

Brave
Funny
Loyal
Hardworking
Neat
Polite
Grateful
Impatient
Scared
Bossy
Moody
Loud

Who wants to share their I AM sentence + metaphor from last class?



Review Time!

I am quiet.

I am a whisper.

I am a mouse.

I am the middle of the night.

I am a yoga class.

I am a puzzle.

I am an empty house.

I am a Tesla.

I am snow.

You turned your I AM sentences into a metaphor during our December 15 session.



Review Time!

I am quiet.

I am a whisper.

whispering

mouse

rock

squirrel

walking

fish

crackling of a fire

shark

water

sand

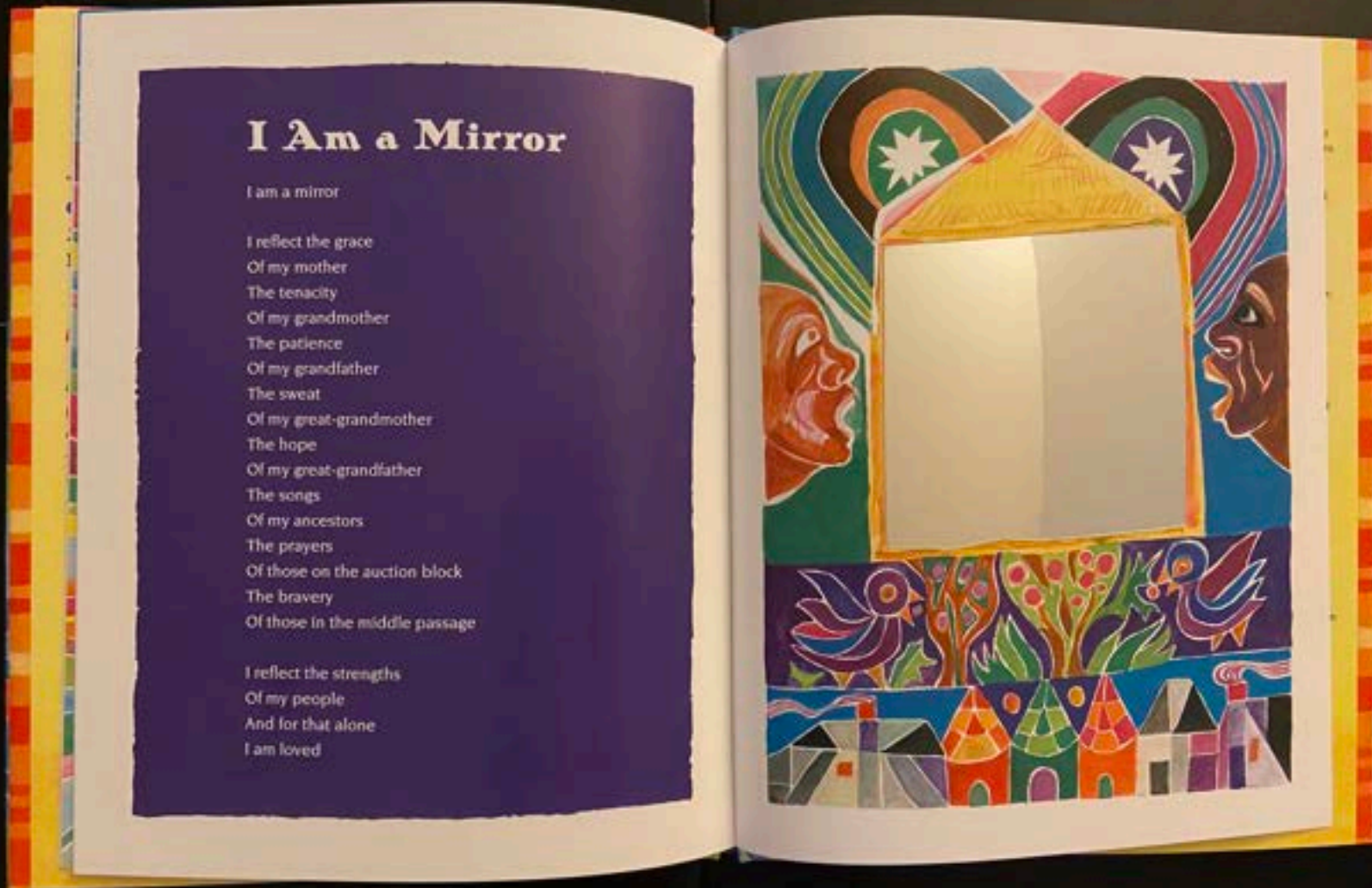
You turned one of your I AM sentences into a metaphor during our December 15 session.



What is a character sketch?

A brief description, including character traits, of a character.

Can be written as prose or poetry.
Today, we're writing I AM poems!



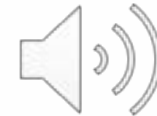
I Am a Mirror

I am a mirror

I reflect the grace
Of my mother
The tenacity
Of my grandmother
The patience
Of my grandfather
The sweat
Of my great-grandmother
The hope
Of my great-grandfather
The songs
Of my ancestors
The prayers
Of those on the auction block
The bravery
Of those in the middle passage

I reflect the strengths
Of my people
And for that alone
I am loved

"I AM A MIRROR"
FROM I AM LOVED
BY NIKKI GIOVANNI
ILLUSTRATED BY ASHLEY BRYAN



I Am a Mirror

I am a mirror

I reflect the grace
Of my mother
The tenacity
Of my grandmother
The patience
Of my grandfather
The sweat
Of my great-grandmother
The hope
Of my great-grandfather
The songs
Of my ancestors
The prayers
Of those on the auction block
The bravery
Of those in the middle passage

I reflect the strengths
Of my people
And for that alone
I am loved

"I AM A MIRROR"
BY NIKKI GIOVANNI

What kind of
character traits
does the speaker
in the poem have?

INSTRUCTIONS

I AM Poem

I am _____
(2 character traits)

I wonder _____
(Something you're curious about)

I feel _____
(Emotion)

I am _____
(Metaphor for 1st character trait in line one)

I hope _____
(Something you are hopeful for)

I worry _____
(Something that bothers you)

I am _____
(Metaphor for 2nd character trait in line one)

I dream _____
(Something you dream about)

Writing Time!

Patient

Kind

Caring

Adventurous

Smart

Cheerful

Friendly

Strong

Creative

Happy

Honest

Athletic

Quiet

Shy

Brave

Funny

Loyal

Hardworking

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Bossy

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Loud

LESSON THREE DAY 4

FINISH + SHARE

I AM POEMS



I AM Poem

I am _____
(2 character traits)

I wonder _____
(Something you're curious about)

I feel _____
(Emotion)

I am _____
(Metaphor for 1st character trait in line one)

I hope _____
(Something you are hopeful for)

I worry _____
(Something that bothers you)

I am _____
(Metaphor for 2nd character trait in line one)

I dream _____
(Something you dream about)

Writing Time!

Let's finish the last three lines of your poems.

Let's create titles.

Who would like to read their poems?



Name one thing you learned in this lesson.

L₁

E₁

A₁

R₁

N₁

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Write a character sketch about a character in your favorite book.

Read your "I am" poem to a family member or friend.

Write a poem about a family member or friend.

REFERENCES

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Images courtesy of Pexels and Pixabay

All videos courtesy of YouTube

[https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/FreeDownload/
Character-Traits-vs-Character-Emotions-Adjective-Lists-1298528](https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/FreeDownload/Character-Traits-vs-Character-Emotions-Adjective-Lists-1298528)

<https://nikki-giovanni.com/works/childrens-poetry/>

Music from: bensound.com

<https://freeology.com/wp-content/files/iampoem.pdf>