

Why You Need a Poem in Your Poetry

- Poetry offers mastery of language, and stocks the mind with images and ideas in unforgettable words and phrases
- Poetry trains and develops our emotional intelligence
- Poetry reminds us that language is holistic—that how something is said is part of what is being said, with the literal meaning of words only part of their whole meaning, which is also carried by tone of voice, inflection, rhythm
- Poetry lets us see the world through other eyes, and equips us imaginatively and spiritually to face the joys and challenges of our lives

Times When Knowing a Poem Helps!

- When faced with bad news or difficult times
- At a wedding, funeral, or other life-cycle event
- As a toast or grace before meals
 - In a romantic relationship or during a marriage proposal
- During a speech or other effort to move an audience, whether it be voters, colleagues, teammates, or others you wish to lead
- When thanking a teacher for being so awesome (hint, hint)

