

- Line 1: First name  
 Line 2: Four traits that describe character  
 Line 3: Relative of (brother of, sister of, and so on) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 4: Lover of \_\_\_\_\_ (list three things or people)  
 Line 5: Who feels \_\_\_\_\_ (three items)  
 Line 6: Who needs \_\_\_\_\_ (three items)  
 Line 7: Who fears \_\_\_\_\_ (three items)
- Line 8: Who gives \_\_\_\_\_ (three items)  
 Line 9: Who would like to \_\_\_\_\_ (three items)  
 Line 10: Resident of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 11: Last name

Here is a bio-poem written for a philosophy course (Yoshida, 1985, p. 124) on Dostoevski's Grand Inquisitor.

Inquisitor,  
 Cynical, bold, all knowing, and fearless.  
 Friend of no one, peer of few.  
 Lover of self, wisdom, and unconquerable knowledge.  
 Who feels neither pity nor compassion nor the love of God.  
 Who needs no man, save for himself.  
 Who fears the kiss that warms his heart.  
 And the coming tide which will not retreat.  
 Who radiates cold shafts of broken glass  
 And who fits all mankind with collar and chain.  
 Who would like to see the deceivers burned  
 And Christ to be humbled before him.  
 Resident of ages past,  
 The Grand Inquisitor.

BIO-  
POEM  
FORMAT

BIO-  
POEM  
SAMPLE

*I Am From*

I am from Avis and Frank, Agnes and Fred, Glessie May and Mark

From the Ozark Mountains and the high plains of eastern Colorado,

from mountain snowmelt and southern creeks with water moccasins.

I am from oatmeal eaters, gizzard eaters, haggis and raccoon eaters.

I am from craziness, darkness, sensuality, and humor  
 From intense do-gooders struggling through ranch winters in the 1920s.

I am from "If you can't say anything nice about someone, don't say anything," and "Pretty is as pretty does" and "Shit-muckely brown" and "Damn it all to hell!"

I am from no-dancing-or-drinking Methodists, but cards were okay except on Sunday, and from tent-meeting Holy Rollers, from farmers, soldiers, bootleggers, and teachers.

I am from Schwinn girl's bike, 1950 Mercury two-door, and *West Side Story*.

From coyotes, baby field mice, chlorinous swimming pools, Milky Way and harvest moon over Nebraska cornfields.

I am from muddy Platte and Republican, from cottonwood and mulberry, tumbleweed and switchgrass, from Willa Cather, Walt Whitman, and Janis Joplin.

My own sweet dance unfolding against a cast of women in aprons and barefoot men in overalls.