

**PV Log: (circle one) Poem / Movie / Picture / Lyric**Date 1/30/14Title "A Noiseless Patient Spider"Author / Director / Walt Whitman**Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)**

Class assignment, given to me by Mr. Shakely

**Content / CD / Summary / Precis (Say? "Plot? Setting/Situation? Key lines/phrases scenes, etc? )**

This poem describes a spider creating its web. It is shooting web out randomly in various directions, trying to get it to stick to something. The spider tries to anchor its web to its surroundings, just as the soul tries to anchor itself to its surroundings and tries to change the people around it for the better. Although the spider endures hardships and webmaking is hard work, it keeps on going. It probably fails at anchoring its web multiple times, but it keeps going and tries again.

**Content / CM / Meaning? / Theme(s)?**

This poem presents one of the greatest metaphors I've ever seen in a poem before. The theme of this poem is connecting to our surroundings and making a change in our community. It is about never giving up and trying again if we inevitably fail. Everyone must do hard work at some point in their lives, and it is nice to know we are not alone and there are others like us.

**Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)**

The symbol in this poem is the spider and the spider's web. The spider represents us. Humans. The human soul. The web represents that human soul connecting to the things around it. The web is our social, family, spiritual web that we rely on every single day of our life. It is constantly being degraded, and it is constantly being built back up. Although we fail every day, we try, try again, and we eventually get it right.

**Commentary (What do you want to say? Why like? Questions? Synthesis / Allusions-Connections / Relevance to personal experience, to literature, 20Q's? etc.)? "Poetic" Traits?**

I love this poem. It contains one of the best metaphors I've seen in a poem. The metaphor of the spider and especially that of the spider's web really touch me because they are very relatable. Every single person on this earth can relate to this poem. That feat in itself earns it the title of "poetic." The web can represent so many different things, and that is what makes this poem so different and intriguing. Branching out and experiencing new things is important to our personal development, and that is exactly what this poem promotes. In order to become well-rounded individuals who can make a difference in our community, we must shoot our webs out and try new things.

## A Noiseless Patient Spider

A noiseless, patient spider,  
I mark'd, where, on a little promontory, it stood, isolated;  
Mark'd how, to explore the vacant, vast surrounding,  
It launch'd forth filament, filament, filament, out of itself;  
Ever unreeling them—ever tirelessly speeding them.

And you, O my Soul, where you stand,  
Surrounded, detached, in measureless oceans of space,  
Ceaselessly musing, venturing, throwing,—seeking the spheres, to connect them;  
Till the bridge you will need, be form'd—till the ductile anchor hold;  
Till the gossamer thread you fling, catch somewhere, O my Soul.