

Coda

Octavio Paz

Perhaps to love is to learn
to walk through this world.
To learn to be silent
like the oak and the linden of the fable.
To learn to see.
Your glance scattered seeds.
It planted a tree.
 I talk
because you shake its leaves.

Assignment: Consider these as you make annotations. Then, write a page including all answers:

1. What parts of the poem can you recognize? (punctuation, paragraphs, capitalization, line breaks)
2. Look for figurative language use. (rhyming words, alliteration, metaphor, simile, onomatopoeia)
3. Find the words that seem to contain botanical imagery.
4. Which line in the poem indicates a change in direction? How do you know?
5. Which lines in the poem use plant symbolism to introduce a feeling or new idea?

Read the poem out loud.

6. What words do you recognize?
7. What feeling seems to be involved?
8. What does it make you imagine?
9. To whom might Paz be speaking in this poem?

Next: Find a poem that contains botanical imagery. Be ready to share with class.