

Brief Questions in Walt Whitman poems

Writer: Walt Whitman | Generated: Jan 26, 2026

Brief Question in Walt Whitman's poems

- What is “Song of Myself”?

Ans:

“Song of Myself” is the longest and most important poem in Leaves of Grass.

- What is the theme of “Song of Myself”?

Ans:

The poem celebrates the self, nature, and American democracy.

- How does the poem begin?

Ans:

It begins like an epic, where the poet sings of himself and all mankind.

- What does the “spear of grass” symbolize?

Ans:

It symbolizes the creative power of nature.

- How can true knowledge be acquired, according to Whitman?

Ans:

True knowledge comes through communion with nature.

- What is Whitman’s attitude to sex?

Ans:

He believes sex is natural and not evil.

- What does sexual union symbolize?

Ans:

It symbolizes unity in diversity and spiritual oneness.

- **Why is the poet proud of his body?**

Ans:

He is proud because his body is strong, clean, and pure.

- **How does Whitman show equality of body and soul?**

Ans:

He says both body and soul are equally important.

- **How does Whitman become a believer in democracy?**

Ans:

He believes all people are equal as children of one God.

- **How does the poet realize the immortality of the soul?**

Ans:

The growing grass on graves shows life continues after death.

- **What does the young woman of twenty-eight stand for?**

Ans:

She stands for the poet's soul, unseen by ordinary men.

- **What does the young woman watch from her window?**

Ans:

She watches twenty-eight young men bathing near the sea.

- **What is the meaning of "unscrew the locks from the doors"?**

Ans:

It means removing barriers that separate human souls.

- **What does Whitman believe as a democrat?**

Ans:

He believes in the equality and dignity of all men.

- **Whose voice would Whitman become?**

Ans:

He would speak for slaves, the poor, and the suffering.

- **What is Whitman's idea of eternity?**

Ans:

Time is endless and has neither beginning nor end.

- **How can a man be a hero, according to Whitman?**

Ans:

A man becomes a hero by showing sympathy and kindness.

- **Why is the poet not afraid of death?**

Ans:

He knows death is not an end but a new beginning.

- **Where does the poet invite his readers to go?**

Ans:

He invites them to join him on a spiritual journey.

- **What does the "spotted hawk" symbolize?**

Ans:

It symbolizes the poet's wild and free soul.

- **What is the basic symbol in the poem?**

Ans:

The "I" is the main symbol representing the poet and humanity.

- **What is Whitman's idea of the immortality of the soul?**

Ans:

The soul joins the Divine Soul after death.

- **Where and when does Whitman behold God?**

Ans:

He feels God's presence everywhere and every moment.

- **What does Whitman mean by "en masse"?**

Ans:

It means equality and brotherhood among all people.

- **How many sections are there in "Song of Myself"?**

Ans:

The poem has fifty-two sections.

- **How does grass symbolize democracy?**

Ans:

Grass grows everywhere, showing equality among all people.

- **What is "the handkerchief of the Lord"?**

Ans:

Grass is called God's handkerchief, a green gift of life.

- **Where does Whitman behold God?**

Ans

: He sees God's presence in every place and time.

- **How many sections are there in the poem?**

Ans:

There are fifty-two sections in the poem.

- **How does the poet's self gain a cosmic dimension?**

Ans:

His self expands to include all living beings.

- **How does the poet ensure his immortality?**

Ans:

He unites with the Divine and lives on through his readers.

Lx Notes