**Question Sheet, Class #7**

**Trish’s questions for Edna St. Vincent Millay’s** “**Love is not all: it is not meat nor drink” pg.189**

1. The sonnet has many images. Which one(s) create the most meaning for you?
2. Does Millay successfully convey the significance of, and need for, love in her life?
3. Where is the volta?
4. What does the line “Or nagged by want past resolution’s power,” mean to you?

**Trish’s questions for Edna St. Vincent Millay’s** “**Read history: so learn your place in Time” pg.190**

1. How does this sonnet compare and contrast with “Love is not all”?
2. Millay was a pacificist, but became a vehement anti-fascist. Do you see this as an anti-war sonnet?
3. Did you expect the sonnet to end the way that it did? Comment on tone and impact.
4. What is the meaning of “poison” in the 12th line?

**Craig’s questions for e.e. cummings “I carry your heart with me(carry it in,” pg. 200 and “next to of course god america i,” pg. 199**
1. Why do you think he wrote sonnets when he also famously wrote free verse?
2. How does he play with the traditional elements of the sonnet?
3. What is most important to you in his poems? Any poems?

**Linda’s questions for Robert Frost’s “Mowing” pg. 169 and “Hyla Brook” pg. 170**

1. Frost developed his own system of rhythm, sound and sense wherein the sonnet might keep to iambic pentameter but the wording and sentencing veered toward everyday speech that also matched the sense of the poem, itself. Read “Mowing” aloud; do you hear the rhythm and sound matching the sense of the poem? Is this also true for Hyla Brook?”
2. Frost follows other aspects of the conventions of the sonnet—the octet vs. the sestet, a rhyme scheme, a volta in the last line. Do you find that he is using these conventions purposefully, maybe to reinforce tone? Or meaning? Or emotion?
3. What about the last lines of these two sonnets: Did you anticipate them or were they a surprise? What do you make of them in terms of the storyline of each sonnet and in terms of the theme or meaning of each sonnet?

# In his essay “Education by Poetry” Frost wrote: “Poetry provides the one permissible way of saying one thing and meaning another.” Is this indirectness at work in these sonnets?

1. “Hyla Brook” is not one of Frost’s more famous poems. Why not? Do you think it deserves to be ranked among poems like “Stopping by Woods” or “Two Roads in a Yellow Wood”—or not?