

## Craft Lesson # 1: *Aristotle and Dante* | Dialogue or Two-Voice Poem

Directions: Ari describes many imagined conversations between himself and other characters in the novel. Also, there are many conversations between Dante and other characters to which the reader is not exposed. Select Dante OR Ari and another character to use to create a dialogue poem. Create a discussion between the pair. Establish a conflict so that the characters are not agreeing with each other. Let them speak in authentic voices. It must be clear to your reader who is speaking throughout your poem. The poem should be 20 lines total with 10 lines devoted to each character.

You may pair with a partner or work alone to create a two-voice poem. Improvise a dialogue between your two characters. After you get an idea what the dialogue sounds like, write it in draft form. Without using names, lay it out so that it's clear when the voices change. Be sure to title your poem.

Example:

"The Vicar and the Teacher"  
from *I Heard the Owl Call My Name*  
by Maxx Nanson, student

The clouds are a light gray,  
the normal but beautiful color of Kingcome sky.

*The clouds are ominous and dreary,  
I grow tired of this place.*

Rain starts to fall,  
as much a part of me as my own arms.

*Rain starts to fall,  
reflecting my somber mood.*

The air is cold,  
feeling clean, fresh, and new.

*The air is cold  
and I put on my jacket longing for the warm summer days of my old home.*

Soon the children will visit me,  
so innocent and curious.

*Soon the children will visit me,  
I grow tired of their blank, expressionless faces.*

I respect the culture,  
and don't force my beliefs.

*I am a teacher, and they will learn English.*

Life in Kingcome is simple,  
it makes a man realize what his place in life is all about.  
*Life in Kingcome is boring,  
no man should ever have to come here.*

I am an outsider, for I can never truly be a part of them  
*I am an outsider, for I will never be one of them.*