# Mornings Like This: Found Poems and the Art of Discovery

A found poem is a poem that is created from an existing text. The text can be anything from a newspaper article to a shopping list to a love letter. The found poet simply takes the text and arranges it in a way that creates a new poem.

Found poems can be a lot of fun to create, and they can also be a great way to learn more about poetry. By taking an existing text and transforming it into a poem, you can learn about the different elements of poetry, such as rhythm, rhyme, and imagery.

Creating a found poem is a simple process. Here are the steps:



Mornings Like This: Found Poems by Annie Dillard

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1. **Find a text.** The first step is to find a text that you want to use to create your poem. You can use any type of text, but some texts are more conducive to found poetry than others. For example, texts that are full of strong imagery or emotion tend to work well.

- Read the text carefully. Once you have found a text, read it carefully. Look for words and phrases that jump out at you. These are the words and phrases that you will use to create your poem.
- 3. Arrange the words and phrases in a way that creates a poem. This is the most challenging part of creating a found poem, but it is also the most rewarding. Experiment with different arrangements of the words and phrases until you find a combination that you like.
- 4. **Revise and edit your poem.** Once you have a draft of your poem, take some time to revise and edit it. Make sure that the poem flows well and that the language is clear and concise.

Here are a few tips for creating found poems:

- Don't be afraid to experiment. There is no one right way to create a found poem. Experiment with different arrangements of the words and phrases until you find a combination that you like.
- Use your imagination. Found poems are a great way to let your imagination run wild. Don't be afraid to take the text in new and unexpected directions.
- Be open to surprises. The best found poems often come from unexpected places. Be open to surprises, and don't be afraid to take risks.

Here are a few examples of found poems:

"The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" by T.S. Eliot

This poem is created from a variety of sources, including Dante's "Inferno" and Shakespeare's "The Tempest." Eliot uses these sources to create a poem that is both personal and universal, exploring themes of love, loss, and redemption.

#### "The Waste Land" by T.S. Eliot

This poem is created from a variety of sources, including the Bible, Dante's "Inferno," and Shakespeare's "The Tempest." Eliot uses these sources to create a poem that is both personal and universal, exploring themes of love, loss, and redemption.

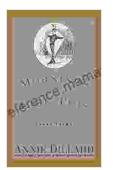
#### "Howl" by Allen Ginsberg

This poem is created from a variety of sources, including the Bible, Walt Whitman's "Leaves of Grass," and William Blake's "The Marriage of Heaven and Hell." Ginsberg uses these sources to create a poem that is both personal and political, exploring themes of love, loss, and redemption.

Found poems are a unique and engaging form of poetry that can be created by anyone, regardless of their writing experience. By taking an existing text and transforming it into a poem, you can learn about the different elements of poetry, such as rhythm, rhyme, and imagery. You can also use found poems to express your own creativity and to explore your own personal experiences.

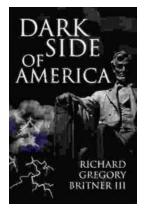
So what are you waiting for? Start creating found poems today!

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