**A Supermarket in California**

What thoughts I have of you tonight, Walt Whitman, for I walked down the sidestreets under the trees with a headache self-conscious looking at the full moon.  
         In my hungry fatigue, and shopping for images, I went into the neon fruit supermarket, dreaming of your enumerations!  
         What peaches and what penumbras! Whole families shopping at night! Aisles full of husbands! Wives in the avocados, babies in the tomatoes!—and you, Garcia Lorca, what were you doing down by the watermelons?  
……………

Please find the rest of the poem in the internet or an anthology and read the rest of the poem. Read at least three times and provide following information for the poem:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Persona: |  |
| Tone: |  |
| Mood: |  |
| Figures of Speech: |  |
| Most striking images: |  |
| Meter/ Rhyme Pattern: |  |

Notes/Questions for You

This poem is paying homage to Walt Whitman. It is good to remember Whitman’s poetics. Please note down the major aspects of his poetics.

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In what ways does Ginsberg see himself close to Whitman?

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In what ways is Ginsberg’s America different from Whitman’s America according to the poem?

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Why is a supermarket chosen as the setting?

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