**The Ball Poem**

By [John Berryman](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/john-berryman)

What is the boy now, who has lost his ball.

What, what is he to do? I saw it go

Merrily bouncing, down the street, and then

Merrily over—there it is in the water!

No use to say 'O there are other balls':

An ultimate shaking grief fixes the boy

As he stands rigid, trembling, staring down

All his young days into the harbour where

His ball went. I would not intrude on him,

……….

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

The most interesting aspect of this poem, to me, is the relationship between the boy and the persona. What kind of a relationship is that?

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Thye poem is just one long piece. Would it be a different poem if it were four or five stanzas?

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