

The Poem ① 'I'm Nobody! Who are you?'

This poem is one of the most obscure personal poems of Emily Dickinson. Her seclusion and her aversion from public life find expression in this poem. The poem celebrates Dickinson's absolute love for privacy. The word 'Nobody' is used in the sense of her loneliness, an absence of the self. It is a kind of privacy that she as a 'nobody' would share with only 'nobody'. The frog refers to public life or in general <sup>with</sup> the people. The word 'somebody' refers to public persons. The image of frog represents a public figure who is probably chosen by Dickinson as it is an amphibian. A frog juggles between land and water as 'somebody' does between a private life and public spheres of life which is insecure and confusing to socialize and interact in public life.

'Tom Nobody! Who are you?' by Emily Dickinson

Introduction: - Emily Dickinson was born on 10th Dec 1830 in Amherst Massachusetts. As a child Emily Dickinson was fearful, meek, and utterly submissive, incapable of communicating with her family members. She was withdrawn from school due to health problem. Separation, death sickness and due to her mother's depress nature, her father's frequent absence left Emily melancholy and depressed. She could feel the pain of death of her friends, teachers etc.

But apart from her preoccupation with death, decay and sense of loss she was a great poet. She composed almost 1,775 poems and fragments. Her collected poems were first published in 1955. Emily was a proud American poet. She emphasized one's writing should be from experience. Dickinson developed her arguments through rich metaphor, slant rhymes, metrical variation, capitalization for emphasis, lack of titles, unconventional punctuation and highly condense syntax.