



Discussion Questions

Love That Dog by Sharon Creech

Source: Madison Public Library

1. We only get one side of the conversation (Jack's) and never what the teacher writes or says to him. Why did the author do this?
2. Love That Dog is written differently than other stories, kind of a journal with poems. Why do you think the author chose to write it like this?
3. Jack says, "Maybe the ... poet was just making a picture with words and someone else ... typed it up and then people thought it was a poem because it looked like one typed up like that." Did Sharon Creech write poems for this book or are they poems because this was how it was typed?
4. Jack says, "If that is a poem about the red wheelbarrow and the white chickens then any words can be a poem. You've just got to make short lines." Do you agree?
5. What does "anonymous" mean? Why didn't Jack want his name on his poems? Have you ever wanted to share something you created but be anonymous?
6. How did you feel after reading Jack's poem called "My Sky" (p. 68)?
7. Who is your favorite author or poet?
8. Did you have a favorite poem in Love That Dog?
9. Why does poetry allow Jack to finally share his sadness about his dog?