

*Mark Halliday:*

This poem is not only humorous, but also contains euphemisms, repetition, and hyperbole. Immediately, the reader notices the difference in form and punctuation, both of which play a part in the poem's meaning. This unconventional style makes this a free verse poem. Of course, the reader is curious about what is being said on the other side of the conversation. But Halliday's intentional manipulation allows the audience to focus on the emotion that Dorie is going through. She comes to her epiphany about the importance of a balanced relationship in the end of the poem, by talking about Marcie's shallow relationships throughout the poem. Shifting through questions, punctuation, and cacophonous sounds (like, you know, for godssake), the reader ends the poem focusing on this realization Dorie has gone through and how she may apply it to her own life (this begs the question: why is she travelling? Is she perhaps making sacrifices for her own love life?) Through this conversation and analysis of her friends' relationships, she feels better prepared to enter this new and exciting phase of her life as a young adult.