**Alone**Maya Angelou, 1928-2014

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Stanza 1  Refrain  Stanza 2  Refrain  Stanza 3  Refrain | Lying, thinking Last night How to find my soul a home Where water is not thirsty And bread loaf is not stone I came up with one thing And I don’t believe I’m wrong That nobody, But nobody Can make it out here alone.  Alone, all alone Nobody, but nobody Can make it out here alone.  There are some millionaires With money they can’t use Their wives run round like banshees Their children sing the blues They’ve got expensive doctors To cure their hearts of stone. But nobody No, nobody Can make it out here alone.  Alone, all alone Nobody, but nobody Can make it out here alone.  Now if you listen closely I’ll tell you what I know Storm clouds are gathering The wind is gonna blow The race of man is suffering And I can hear the moan, ‘Cause nobody, But nobody Can make it out here alone.  Alone, all alone Nobody, but nobody Can make it out here alone. |

**2/22/2017**

1. Number each line of the poem

2. Annotate each line of the poem, writing to the side of the lines what your interpretation is.

3. What is the personification in stanza 1?

4. What is the simile in stanza 3?

5. What is the metaphor in stanza 3?

6. What words have connotation and what is the implied (hidden, extra) meaning of the word? How does the poet’s word choice impact the poem?

7.Identify the theme of this poem. Which lines contribute to the theme of the poem?

8. What is the meaning of stanza 3’s lines:

Storm clouds are gathering  
The wind is gonna blow

9. “Race” in stanza 3 has a dual meaning. What are the two meanings?

10. What is the setting of stanza 1?

11. What is the meaning of “sing the blues” in stanza 2?