**Alone**Maya Angelou, 1928-2014

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| Stanza 1RefrainStanza 2RefrainStanza 3Refrain | Lying, thinkingLast nightHow to find my soul a homeWhere water is not thirstyAnd bread loaf is not stoneI came up with one thingAnd I don’t believe I’m wrongThat nobody,But nobodyCan make it out here alone.Alone, all aloneNobody, but nobodyCan make it out here alone.There are some millionairesWith money they can’t useTheir wives run round like bansheesTheir children sing the bluesThey’ve got expensive doctorsTo cure their hearts of stone.But nobodyNo, nobodyCan make it out here alone.Alone, all aloneNobody, but nobodyCan make it out here alone.Now if you listen closelyI’ll tell you what I knowStorm clouds are gatheringThe wind is gonna blowThe race of man is sufferingAnd I can hear the moan,‘Cause nobody,But nobodyCan make it out here alone.Alone, all aloneNobody, but nobodyCan 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?