**I LOVE MYSELF THE WAY I AM**

**SUMMARY**

The poem is a celebration of life and valuing one’s innate goodness. The poet says that he loves himself for the way he is. There is no need to change anything about himself as he or she is perfect the way he or she is. The poet believes that there is no need to change or rearrange anything in himself. In other words the poet is satisfied with what there is and does not want any change or rearrangements.

The poet addresses the reader or another person and reiterates the fact she he loves every one the way they are and does not feel that they need to change themselves. The love that is within the poet allows her or him to love others around him or her and understand that beneath the fear anger and sadness everyone has goodness. The poet then goes to encompass all humanity and say that she/he loves the way it is because he can clearly see that everything that is happening in the world is being done by people who are similar in the most intrinsic way. The poet also recognises the fact that love is the only factor that can bring ever lasting peace to the world. The poet says though he loves himself the way she he is she also wants to grow and can only do so if he recognises the fact that change can only come with acceptance and compassion.

1. **Fill in the blanks to complete the summary of the poem:**

The poet loves the **way** he/she is. The poet believes that he/she is the best that **he/she** can be. As for the other person the poet **loves** the person as he or she is. The poet finds it easy to love the other person because the poet feels **love** inside himself/herself. The poet feels that we may be afraid or angry sometimes but inside us we are always shining. Peace can grow on earth only through **love**. And for us to grow we must always **love** ourselves for what we are.

1. **Answer these questions:**
2. **What is the poet capable of?**

**Ans**: The poet is capable of being the best that he or she can be.

1. **When is it easy for the poet to love other people?**

**Ans**: When the poet feels the love inside herself or himself, it is easy for the poet to love others.

1. **What can the poet see about the world?**

**Ans**: The poet loves the world the way it is because the poet can clearly see that all the things he or she judges are done by people just like him/her.

1. **What will the poet help to grow by loving everybody?**

**Ans**: The poet will help peace to grow by loving everybody.

1. **How does the poet think that change can be brought in this world?**

**Ans**: The poet thinks that change can only come into the world when deep inside ourselves we all know that we are beautiful and capable of being the best we can and love ourselves just the way we are.

1. **Answer these questions with reference to the context:**
2. **…there’s nothing to rearrange
a. Why does the poet say there is nothing to rearrange?
b. What can be rearranged?
c. What can happen if it is rearranged?**

**Ans**:

1. The poet says there is nothing to rearrange because the poet will always be the perfect person that he or she can be.
2. Nothing can be rearranged.
3. If it is rearranged the person may not remain as perfect as the person is now.
4. **there’s nothing you need to do
a. Who says this to whom?
b. Why is there nothing that the other person needs to do?
c. Why doesn’t the person have to do anything?**

**Ans**:

1. The poet says this to the other person who is being addressed in the poem.
2. The other person too does not need to do anything because when the poet feels love inside herself or himself it is easy for the poet to love others too. The poet can see the other person’s goodness that lies behind the fear and rage and tears.
3. The other person does not have to do anything because the other person too is perfect just as they way he or she is. And the poet loves them just the way they are.
4. **that only love can bring
I’ll help it grow
a. What do these lines refer to?
b. How can love bring it?
c. What will the speaker do to help it grow?**

**Ans**:

1. The lines refer to peace on earth that only love can bring.
2. Love can bring peace because when we love ourselves truly we will love everyone around us, understand them and we will not judge them. This will bring peace and happiness into the world.
3. The speaker will help it to grow by loving himself/herself and others around him/her.

**( Note: No need to write poem and summary in your fair copy. Only Question Answers you have to write.)**