**Siren Song**

BY [MARGARET ATWOOD](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/margaret-atwood)

This is the one song everyone

would like to learn: the song

that is irresistible:

the song that forces men

to leap overboard in squadrons

even though they see the beached skulls

the song nobody knows

because anyone who has heard it

is dead, and the others can't remember.

Shall I tell you the secret

and if I do, will you get me

out of this bird suit?

I don't enjoy it here

squatting on this island

looking picturesque and mythical

with these two feathery maniacs,

I don't enjoy singing

this trio, fatal and valuable.

I will tell the secret to you,

to you, only to you.

Come closer. This song

is a cry for help: Help me!

Only you, only you can,

you are unique

at last. Alas

it is a boring song

but it works every time.

**Tasks:**

1. Write out a $2 summary of the poem in your own words. Each word is worth 10 cents. (20 words is the maximum.)
2. Highlight one quote that stood out to you and explain why it stood out.
3. Identify the following in the poem.

Speaker: (who is saying the poem?)

Tone: (what is the emotion of the poem?)

Shift: (is there a part where the poem changes?)

1. What type of poem is this? Rhyming or free verse?
2. Explain the title.