

QNT sample on *Elements*, pp. 319–320, “Song of Myself: 52”

The first three columns are samples of what should appear in student notebooks. The fourth column is placed in this sample to explain why a student might copy down a certain quotation.

Quote	Note	Thought	(why taken)
“hawk swoops by and accuses me” (1)	This is Whitman’s description of a hawk	I guess this is personification b/c a hawk can’t really accuse a person	Like it or think it’s important
“my gab” (2)	??	I don’t know what this means	A question or I think it might be important
“I too am not a bit tamed” (3)	The speaker is like the hawk	That’s cool, b/c I’m not tame either	Love it
“barbaric yawp” (4)	??	What the ??? is a barbaric yawp? Sounds like a yell...which would be cool...yelling over the roofs of the world. Everyone’s got to pay attention to me	Not sure, might be important, discovers she likes it
“scud” (5)	??	Huh?	Vocabulary problem
“it flings my likeness after the rest” (6)	A shadow?	I’m not sure what this means, but it sounds important	Not sure
“I depart as air” (8)	Is he dreaming?	I think he’s dreaming, that’s a cool way to think of it	Like it
“I bequeath myself to the dirt to grow from the grass I love.” (10)	He’s giving his body to the earth, so when he dies he’ll be the grass	That is deep. That is also a little weird and creepy...but deep	Like it
“If you want me again look for me under your bootsoles.” (11)	I’ll be the dirt on your shoes when I’m dead??	Ew	Hate it

For more Whitman: www.liglobal.com/walt/songofmyself/song51.html