

Listening Guide

“Pink Dog”- Elizabeth Bishop

“The Iconic Work of One of America’s Favorite Poets!”

1. Bishop wrote about _____; she wrote about the sea.
2. Well, the critics like her, for one thing, because she’s technically an excellent _____.
3. She only published _____ poems.
4. She portrays the world as _____ as she understands it to be, not how she wishes it were.
5. She saw life in terms of _____.
6. She was born on Feb 8, 1911, in Worchester, Massachusetts, but she calls Great Village, Nova Scotia, _____ her home.
7. “I was brought back unconsulted and against my wishes to the house my _____ had been born in.”
8. “When you write my epitaph, you must say I was the _____ person who ever lived.”
9. While living with Lota, Elizabeth would write some of her most celebrated poetry among which would be the work for which she received her _____.
10. Lota’s family was a _____ family, and Bishop had a front row seat to all the cultural, political and social movers and shakers of the Brazil of the 50s and 60s.
11. She wrote a book on _____ for Life World Library series, and it was marketed and sent to homes all over America.
12. It’s titled “Pink Dog” and it’s the last poem Bishop ever completed before she died of a brain aneurism that same year in _____.
13. The dog is representing the _____ population and it’s exposing a terrible, inconvenient, political atrocity that was happening and that had been exposed during the time Bishop was living in Rio.
14. The dog is a metaphor at an individual level as well as a _____ one.
15. “But no one will ever see a dog in _____ this time of year.”
16. “Dress up and dance at _____!”

17. Brazil is a land of great _____ of hues, you know very much like the Creole people of New Orleans.
18. By the way, this poem has _____ stanzas and all of the stanzas have exactly three lines.
19. First of all, this is what we call an _____, Elizabeth is talking directly to the dog even though obviously the dog can't talk back.
20. The richness of Copacabana side by side in obvious contrast to the realities of urban _____, that really caught her eye.
21. The authorities were known to collect these homeless people, and often they were the drug addicted, or the mentally ill, crippled, definitely beggars but they _____ them and throw into the Rio Guarda.
22. "In the cafes and on the sidewalk corners
The joke is going round that all the beggars
Who can afford them now wear life _____."
23. There are two _____ questions- what sambas will you sing? What will you wear?
24. But Samba is Afro-Brazilian by heritage; it's associated historically with the slums of Rio and originally associated with the abolition of _____.
25. "Much of the fun at Carnival has also been spoiled by the government's forbidding costumes or floats that make sport of _____, the church or the military."
26. Of course, she situates her poem in the political situation of Rio in the 1960s, but there is definitely a _____ here.
27. Bishop was an _____ most of her life.
28. The narrator though isn't doing anything, except perhaps inviting us to _____.
29. She sees the actual _____, she sees IN it the beggar on the street, but beyond that, perhaps she sees the pink dog is something more.
30. The _____ was an image that stuck with her for over twenty years.