1. What words do you need to look up to better understand this poem? Birdbell seeds? Amblers? Logy? Timothy (not the name)?
2. What is the basic story of the poem?
3. The poem is in three parts. What is the story or logic of each section?
4. Who is the speaker in the poem? Who else is in the poem? What is their relationship?
5. The “second” person in the poem has “lovely obsessions.” What do imagine is one of the lovely obsessions? Why?
6. What are some of the many specific images in the poem? Note and consider at least four, but more is better.
7. The second person in the poem says, “Marry me / If you know I’m dying / For the benefits. / But not until then.” When is then? What is this person suggesting?
8. As we discussed in class before, animals are often important symbolically and thematically. What animals “appear” in this poem? (Specific animals appear in the second and third stanza or section of the poem.) Be able to characterize how each animal in the poem is depicted.
9. What are the qualities, characteristics or behaviors of the animals that seem most important? Why? Is there “meaning” to be derived from these qualities or characteristics?
10. Are the animals metaphors or analogies for any things or any persons? What or whom? Why do you think so? What are the elements of the metaphors and analogies?
11. Can you explain the title and last two lines of the poem? What do they seem to mean?