Ginsberg and an Anonymous Reader Schematically Illustrate Several Ways in Which the Poem Traverses the Boundary of the Self, Relating the Participants to Create Meaning

EXPRESIVE (UNILATERAL): traverses poet’s boundary; the reader is incidental to meaning.

DIALECTICAL (RECIPROCAL): traverses both boundaries; both parties participate in the construction of meaning.

IDEAL (UNILATERAL): neither boundary is traversed; the poet perceives meaning and transmits it to the reader.

COMMUNICATIVE (UNILATERAL): traverses both boundaries; the reader’s comprehension completes meaning.