The Age of Miracles
Poetry Analysis – Group Work

To demonstrate both your understanding of the themes of The Age of Miracles and your ability to read closely, annotate, and analyze, work with your group to examine each of the following poems. Of the four poems, two will appear on your summative test; you will select one as the focus of an analysis and annotation exercise that counts as your summative test grade for this unit.

Use the following list of guiding questions to guide your group analysis and annotation. Take copious notes. Ask each other questions and be sure that you can be specific in your analysis.

Guiding Questions:

- What does the poem about, literally? That is, what happens? What is the plot?
- What is the author’s intended message or theme? How do you know?
- Each poem connects to a major theme of the novel. How so? How does the intended message connect with The Age of Miracles?
- What does the author have to say about human nature? (The way we see the world and ourselves; the way we behave or treat one another)
- What does the author have to say about nature? (Its fragility or strength; the way it affects us or is affected by us)
- Where does the author use symbolism? What is the purpose?
- What examples of metaphor or simile are present? What is the purpose?
- What is the significance of the title?
- Any other observations? Connections to the novel?