# The Street

## By [Octavio Paz](http://allpoetry.com/Octavio%20Paz)

Here is a long and silent street.  
I walk in blackness and I stumble and fall  
and rise, and I walk blind, my feet  
trampling the silent stones and the dry leaves.  
Someone behind me also tramples, stones, leaves:  
if I slow down, he slows;  
if I run, he runs        
I turn :  
nobody.  
  
Everything dark and doorless,  
only my steps aware of me,  
I turning and turning among these corners  
which lead forever to the street  
where nobody waits for, nobody follows me,  
where I pursue a man who stumbles  
and rises and says when he sees me:  
nobody.

How does the syntax affect the tone of the poem?

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How does the use of metaphor enhance the theme?

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