"The Soul Selects her own Society"

"I'm Nobody" by Emily Dickinson

I'm Nobody! Who are you?

Are you – Nobody – too?

Then there's a pair of us!

Don't tell! they'd advertise – you know!

5 How dreary – to be – Somebody!

How public – like a Frog –

To tell one's name – the livelong June –

To an admiring Bog\*! \*swamp

The Soul selects her own Society —

Then — shuts the Door —

To her divine Majority —

Present no more —

5 Unmoved — she notes the Chariots — pausing —

At her low Gate —

Unmoved — an Emperor be kneeling

Upon her Mat —

I’ve known her — from an ample nation —

10 Choose One —

Then — close the Valves of her attention —

1. How does the speaker seem to feel about having someone else like her?
2. Why would it be bad to have your “nobodiness” advertised?
3. What seems to be the speaker’s view about being a “Somebody” in stanza 2?

Like Stone —

1. What process does the speaker go through in the first stanza?
2. What kind of event is set up in stanza 2?
3. What message does Dickinson convey about “Choos[jng] One”?

**What concept do both poems focus on? What is different about the approach or view of each?**

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|  | Tone (identify diction choices that create tone) | Figurative language (explain how it functions) | Punctuation (impact of pauses at certain places) |
| “The Soul” |  |  |  |
| “I’m Nobody” |  |  |  |