

**Questions on O my pa-pa by Bob Hicok:**

1. What makes Hicok's invention of the fathers' "poetry workshop" so amusing (1)? What is unexpected about such a workshop?
2. What qualities are associated with fatherhood? Does he think it is fair? Accurate?
3. In lines 25-26, the speaker says he doesn't "know why [he] can't write a simple and kind poem to [his] father." What does he mean by "simple"? Does he arrive at anything like an answer to his question by the end of the poem?
4. What is the "bomb" that will go off for both the poet and his father (35)? How does the threat of that bomb inform the dynamics the poet is exploring?
5. What is the speaker's attitude toward the "distance" he names in the final line?