

Letter to Sara about her Poems

You asked for my opinion about the poems that you sent me. I did not volunteer the feedback. Since you asked, you shouldn't have gotten upset. When I read it, I thought it was a poem because of how it looks. You wrote short lines like people do in poems. If it were prose, then it should look like a paragraph. If it is a khatira, a khatira is prose and it should look like prose. Even prose has rhythm. Rhythm doesn't mean rhyme at the end of the lines .

Second, I did not criticize your feelings. I criticized the way you expressed your feelings. Writing is not only an art, it is also a science. We learn the science in order to express our ideas and feelings better and more effectively. To be good at a game, you have to know the rules. It is not enough to be gifted. If you have a nice voice, you still need to study music and practice. This is what singers say. If you are gifted in a sport, you still have to practice and learn the rules of the games. Writing is similar. You are a failure because you think failure, and you're impatient and lazy. It is not because you can't do it. You just want things the easy way. If you practice, you will get better and will know how to put your ideas on paper more effectively. It does not mean that if I am a speaker of Arabic, then I do not need to learn how to write in Arabic, how select my words and how to put them together to say something more effectively. Do you know that you express your ideas and feelings in English more effectively then you do in

Arabic. Why ?Because you study how to write in Arabic, the rules of the game. So stop being sensitive. If you do not honor my opinion, then do not ask for it. If you honor your Arabic teacher's opinion and she knows better, then go ahead and have her read your 'khawatir'. That won't upset me at all and I don't give a damn. Good luck