

# Mother Doesn't Want a Dog

By Judith Viorst

Mother doesn't want a dog.  
Mother says they smell,  
And never sit when you say sit,  
Or even when you yell.  
And when you come home late at night  
And there is ice and snow,  
You have to go back out because  
The dumb dog has to go.

Mother doesn't want a dog.  
Mother says they shed,  
And always let the strangers in  
And bark at friends instead,  
And do disgraceful things on rugs,  
And track mud on the floor,  
And flop upon your bed at night  
And snore their doggy snore.

Mother doesn't want a dog.  
She's making a mistake.  
Because, more than a dog, I think  
She will not want this snake.

1. What lines of the first stanza rhyme? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What are three reasons that Mother doesn't want a dog? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. What are the feelings in this poem? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why is Mother making a mistake? \_\_\_\_\_

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