**Personal Reaction**

 After effectively analyzing the poem "Last Trip to the Island" by Erin Belieu, I’ve come to realize that I love this poem for various reasons. First off, I think this poem is great because Erin uses a selection of elements to express thoughts of reality, which interests me because it absolutely aggravates me when authors write poems containing information which could never happen or is not realistic. In all seriousness, reality is about ups and downs, not just a smooth journey through life, although the right place and attitude would lead you to recognize the next step of the life process. Additionally, I love this poem because there is a ton of detail and description that help me to visualize the scenery or action. Being able to effectively visualize the action makes me love the poem because I'm the type of person which needs to be able to picture the action. Belieu is not vague in this specific poem by any means. Also, this poem is intriguing to me because Belieu forces me to evaluate the poem and think deeper into the meaning of specific things- these might represent something different to each individual. To elaborate, when an author directly states something, they're just providing the answer, leaving me pondering nothing about the poem. Also, my personal reaction is that I love the poem because Belieu states "You're mad I can't love the ocean," then throughout the center of the poem gives her reasoning to the debatable topic on why she doesn't love the ocean. I like that she doesn't state the so called "prompt" and use repetition as a means of supporting it. Moreover, I can relate to this poem because throughout the text, Belieu states how the presence of certain scenes makes her hopeless about the future and stressed about her area of living. I have come to the conclusion that living in a chaotic world is not pleasant, but living in a calm world can be rewarding. Being able to relate to this poem is another reason I love this poem because I know where Belieu came from. Finally, when I first read this poem, I had absolutely no idea what was going on and how to approach the analysis, but as I continued to read deeper into the poem, I began to love it considering I actually knew what Belieu was talking about. In conclusion, Belieu's poem was fantastic and I would consider reading a selection of other poems constructed by her.