i saw an alligator in a phone booth yesterday. he was making a phone call. he wore a straw hat. i bet he was calling his lawyer. those alligators are always getting themselves into one kind of jam or another. he probably ate a young boy playing near his swamp or maybe he’s suing the hunter who shot at him for his hide. either way he needs the phone. i was going to use it, but it seems like he needs it more. what we need is an alligator phone booth. it should be near his swamp and only for alligators. who knows. it may save his life one day. or mine.

A little bit about the poem;

A split personality using the alligator and the narrator is created here. When the reader looks at both characters as one person, they can see how this stream of consciousness works well to create and show the internal conflicts destroying the narrator. The metaphors involving the boy (a past he wants to erase), the hunter (a future closing in on him), and the phone booth (the common ground each side struggles for), help to create an image of why this person is distraught and delusional. The fact that the narrator speaks in first person shows that he is not consciously aware of the other side of his personality, thus making the personification of the alligator that much more surrealistic.