About Walt Whitman

Walt Whitman was the first unique voice in poetry in the United States.

Whitman was born on	, to a working class family in
in West Hills, New York. He was part of th	
free country. His father was a	and a
When Walt was almost 4 years old, his fai	mily moved to
Whitman's finished his formal education l	by ageBut he
continued to learn by reading, visiting mu	seums, and talking and debating with
everyone he met.	
When Whitman was years old	, he became an apprentice to a
	He was soon seeing his own
words in print. The newspaper was called	the Long Island Patriot. Whitman
worked as a printer until he was 17. He th	nen began
Between school terms, he spent his time	reading and writing.
In 1846, Whitman became the	of the <i>Brooklyn Daily Eagle</i>
He left in 1848 when he disagreed with th	ne owner's
For the next year, he published his own n	ewspaper. There he could express his
opinions freely, including his opposition to	o The
newspaper was called	. He then
took a job with a newspaper in	,
It was the first time he had been out of No	

steamboat, and stagecoach. Although the job did not last long, it gave him an opportunity to see more of the United States and its diversity.

In 1855, Whitman published a book of poen	ns called
:	The poems did not have a regular
	. Although the first edition was not
popular with readers, the book became Wh	itman's lifework. He issued new
editions throughout his life as new poems w	vere added. The poems focus on the
beauty of nature, the beauty of human bein	gs, the force of
and the value of	
Whitman's younger brother George was a s	olider in the
When h	e was wounded, Whitman went to
Virginia to take care of him. Whitman was n	
wounded young men. After George returne	d to battle, Whitman continued to
work as a volunteer	in the army hospitals in
Washington, D.C. He wrote and published p	oems about the war, entitled
	(1865). These poems also became
part of Leaves of Grass.	
In 1873, Whitman had a stroke. He moved t	0
to stay with George ar	nd released several more editions
of Leaves of Grass. Walt Whitman died on N	March 26, 1892.