

Into the Verse by Poet Laureate

Part I

Openings

The form of a novel
in verse means line
breaks are of utmost importance
and therefore, the spacing is
single-spaced, except

for the space between stanzas. Though
of course, you the poet are the decider
of that, and because this is poetry, you
also are encouraged to use words you've made

up. You'll have much whitespace, and still, six
pages, so choose your words wisely, and avoid
cliché.

The Next One

usually requires a new page, but for the purposes
of critique, give a line break, not a page
break. That will allow you to include many more
poems from your verse novel and will also
give the agent you are submitting to a better
sample of your work.

Times New Roman

While Times New Roman is a standard
in the industry, for these critiques any standard
font will work. Be advised, however, that many professionals
in the writing industry have aversions to certain fonts:
Comic Sans and Courier being the two
I've seen trashed the most. Hey, I'm using Georgia
in this document, though I know, everyone
most often chooses Times New Roman.

Part II

Resources

While there have been so many, many

good novels-in-verse, remember, too, that not every agent is a good fit for this form. Poetry scares away a good number of prose enthusiasts. I don't know why. But you've got this, and good luck. Here are a few places to check out if you'd like a bit more knowledge:

<https://www.highlightsfoundation.org/20073/writing-novels-in-verse-5-articles-to-help-you-with-form-structure-and-style/>

<https://popgoesthereader.com/target-audience-middle-grade/80-middle-grade-books-in-verse-in-celebration-of-national-poetry-month/>