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"The Cultural Politics of Slam Poetry: Race, Identity, and the Performance of Popular Verse in America" by Susan B.A. Somers-Willett is a great book about the formation and stabilization of the culture that has sprung out of Slam Poetry, especially how it has influenced Hip Hop music. Chapter 4 is especially interesting because it looks at the great contrast between hip hop and slam poetry. This adds for good dialogue about the relationship between Hip Hop and poetry as well as helps me set up a good counter claim against the assertion Somers-Willet makes about Ghetto gangster rap not being considered poetry.

Nelson, Cary, and James Smethurst. "'Internationally Known': The Black Arts Movement and U.S. Poetry in the Age of Hip Hop." *The Oxford Handbook of Modern and Contemporary American Poetry*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2012, pp. 638–654.

The essay "Internationally Known': The Black Arts Movement and U.S. Poetry in the age of Hip Hop" by James Smethurst goes into great detail about the way Hip Hop was formed and its relationship to Poetry. It also looks at the way poetry is used in Hip Hop and any parallels it shares with other performance based poetry. This source will be useful in exploring the way Poetry influenced the birth of conscious hip hop and its longevity in the Hip Hop scene.

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