

Name: _____ Class: _____

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

By Robert Frost
1923

Robert Frost (1874-1963) was one of the most popular and critically respected American poets in history. His poems frequently employ rural scenes from the New England countryside. At first glance, "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening" is a rather simple poem—a man pausing his horse to observe a wintery landscape before moving on—but its carefully constructed lines, like the woods, have a deeper allure. As you read, take notes on Frost's use of imagery and the structure of this poem.

[1] Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

[5] My little horse must think it queer¹
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
[10] To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy² flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
[15] And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.



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1. **Queer (adjective):** strange
2. **Downy (adjective):** soft and fluffy; resembling a bird's down feathers