

The Road Not Taken

by: Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;
Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,
And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.
I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
- I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Try reading the poem out loud.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS POEM – ASK YOUR OWN TOO!

1. What do you think the poet wants to say? Where does he get to say it? How does he 'tell it slant'?
2. How does Frost control the rhymes in his lines? Why do you think he does it like this?
3. What are the vivid details that give you the poet's images?
4. Is this a personal enlightenment?