

Name: _____ Class: _____

The Road Not Taken

By Robert Frost
1916

Robert Frost (1874-1963) was one of the most popular and critically respected American poets in recent history. His poems often discuss rural scenes from the New England countryside. "The Road Not Taken" is one of Frost's most frequently cited poems. As you read the poem, identify the imagery the speaker uses to describe the setting.

- [1] Two roads diverged¹ 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
[5] To where it bent in the undergrowth;²
- Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted³ wear;
Though as for that the passing there
[10] Had worn them really about the same,
- And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden⁴ black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
[15] 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,
[20] And that has made all the difference.



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1. **Diverge (verb):** to separate from another route or go in a different direction
2. a dense growth of shrubs and other plants, especially under trees in woodland
3. lacked
4. **Tread (verb):** to walk or step