

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Robert Frost

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 queer
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 downy 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.

In interpreting this poem, pay close attention to the imagery—it is a major clue to the poem's meaning.

Give some thought to the significance of devoting an entire stanza to the anonymous owner of the woods.

Think about the horse's reaction to the situation and what this implies.

Consider possible non-literal interpretations of the last two lines, and the significance of this repetition.

Think carefully about the *tone* of the poem in terms of both the poem's meaning and the narrator's attitude.