

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening by Robert Frost

Title

I think the title is something about nature. The title may indicate an adventure because the title shows someone or something stopping on a snowy evening.

Paraphrasing

Lines 1-4:

I think I know who owns these woods
But he lives in the village
He can't see me here
As I watch the snow accumulating in the woods

Connotation

I do not see any connotations.

Attitude - feelings and emotions

Robert Frost is able to convey the feeling of calmness in his poem. The speaker explains that the "only other sound's the sweep / [o]f easy wind and downy flake" (Frost 11-12). Frost is able to show that there are very few, if any, sounds other than the horse. The lack of noise allows the reader to feel a sense of calmness because there is nothing going on. This feeling of calmness also allows the reader to feel as if the speaker is taking his/her time. The speaker has stopped "without a farmhouse near" (Frost 6) in order to rest in nature. The ability to rest in nature means that the speaker is not near anyone else and therefore is able to rest undisturbed. These feelings are conveyed throughout the poem through Frost's use of imagery.

Shift

Frost begins the poem with the speaker having paused in his journey. The speaker has paused in the woods until at the end of the third stanza the speaker decides that it is time to move on. The speaker explains that he has "miles to go before [he can] sleep" (Frost 15). In that line the speaker begins his journey again because he has more obligations before he can go to bed. The shift allows the reader to understand that every good thing must come to an end and that includes rest.

Theme

Frost is showing that people need to stop, rest, and enjoy nature. The ability to stop and rest is not always a top priority and yet, rest is still necessary. The choice to rest in nature provides people with an opportunity to experience something new. Even the horse, although confused, only “gives his harness bells a shake” (Frost 9) once. After that one shake the horse is quiet and enjoys the momentary peaceful stop. The poem is attempting to convey that everyone should rest when needed and to pay attention to their surroundings in order to enjoy life.