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ROBERT FROST USES THE TECHNIQUE OF MAKING DESCRIPTIONS IN THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

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ABSTRACT

The Road not taken, poem is written by Robert Frost. Two roads are there in a yellow wood. The traveller feels sorry that he cannot travel on both the roads at a time. He looks down on one road, as far as he can to where it bends in a dense growth of shrubs. Then he looks at the other road which is as fair as the first one. Perhaps it has a better claim because it is grassy and it needs to be used.

Key words: Travel, dense, growth, shrubs, grassy, better claim

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INTRODUCTION

Robert Frost was born in (1874-1963) in USA and lived in New Hampshire. He was also famous in England, where his first two books were published. His poems are particularly concerned with real situations, the rustic life of the countryside and landscape. The poems, though they appear simple on the surface, are actually very thought-provoking. They follow his own view on poetry that a poem 'begins in delight and ends in wisdom'. This may be the reason why he refused to do any experiment with free verse and wrote in traditional styles. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for poetry four times – in 1924, 1931, 1937 and 1943. His first book of poetry, *A Boy's Will*, was published in England in 1913 with an introduction by Ezra Pound, as no American publisher had accepted it. His well-known works are *North of Boston*, *New Hampshire*, *West-running Brook*, *A Further Range* and *Complete Poems*.

Frost's consciously uses the technique of making descriptions of everyday situations or events symbols of profound truths. 'The Road not Taken' is characterised by Frost's usual simple style, that is made by ordinary, straightforward language, great emotional restraint and understatement.

THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

Robert Frost is an American poet. His poems are simple but thought provoking. His poem, The Road not taken speaks of how we are often forced to make decisions involving alternatives. The theme appeals to every one, as the need to choose the right path. It is a problem often faced in life.

There are two roads that lead away from a common point. The person standing at the junction is in a dilemma whether to go by this road or that road. But the roads appear to be attractive. The traveler has to take a decision. The road not taken by him already or less travelled is a better choice. There is an adventure in it.

Two roads are there in a yellow wood. The traveller feels sorry that he cannot travel on both the roads at a time. He looks down on one road, as far as he can to where it bends in a dense growth of shrubs. Then he looks at the other road which is as fair as the first one. Perhaps it has a better claim because it is grassy and it needs to be used.

That particular morning both the roads are unused. Both the paths are covered by leaves. They are still in yellow colour. It indicates that no body has used the roads up to that time. The poet wants to take the first road on another day. He comes to the decision of taking the second road. The decisions taken in life are often final. There is no turning back.

The poet tells this with a sigh that what will happen later with his choice. He has selected the road which is less travelled. That is the difference between the first road and second road. There is an adventurous spirit in his decision.

CONCLUSION

Robert Frost was a National American poet. His poems are simple but thought provoking. His poem, The Road not taken speaks of how we are often forced to make decisions involving alternatives. The theme appeals to every one, as the need to choose the right path. It is a problem often faced in life. Frost's poems are very much interesting which inspired me to prepare this paper, his poems are great treasures to the readers.

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