

Chapter- 1

The Road Not Taken

STUDY NOTES

- In the poem, 'The Road Not Taken', Robert Frost makes a fascinating use of two roads as a metaphor for life. The two roads stand for the choices we make in life.
- Frost combines rustic simplicity with hidden, indirect and implied meaning in the poem.
- The poet comes upon a fork in a path/road in the woods. It is autumn and the leaves are turning its colour-from green to yellow.
- He looks down on both paths as he is unsure which path he should take. He would like to take both but that is not possible.
- He looks down the paths as far as he can see and then decides to take the grassy path as it seems less worn or used than the other. But on further introspection, the paths appear the same. The fallen leaves on the path seem fresh and walked on.
- The narrator reflects on how he plans to return some day in the future to take the road not taken, but suspects that he probably would not be able to do so.
- Instead, he hopes in the future he would be able to share his experiences and the choices he took that changed his life