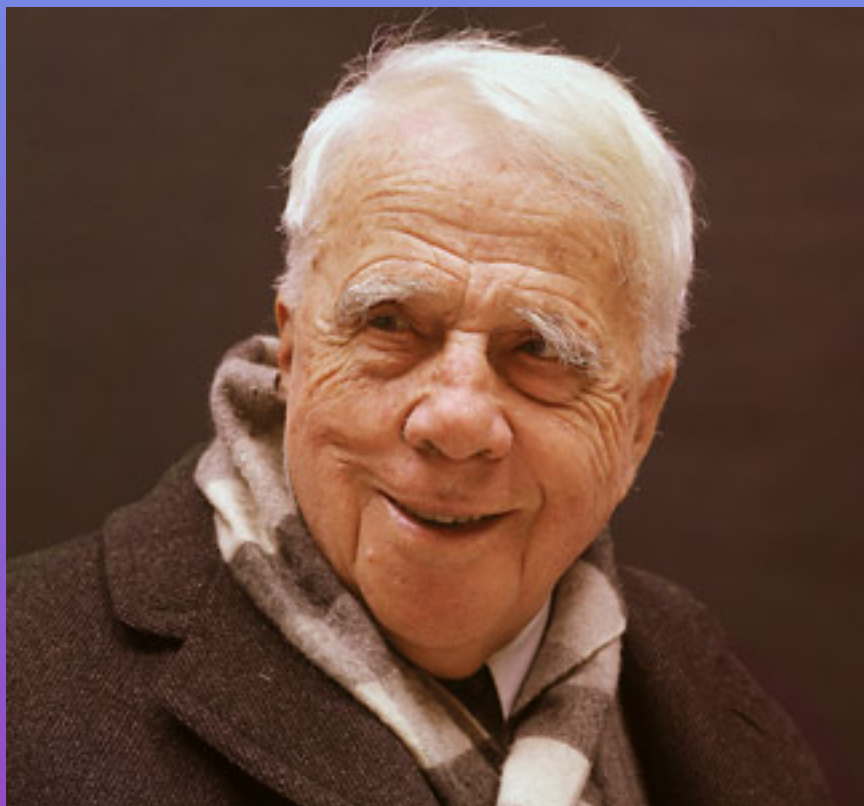
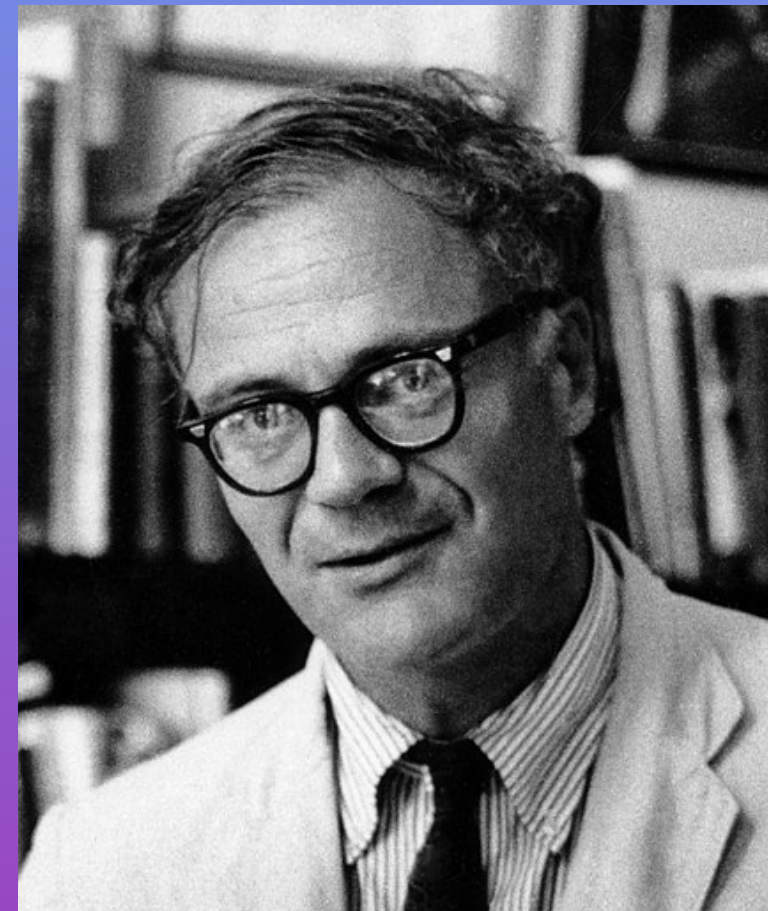


2 Roberts: Frost and Lowell

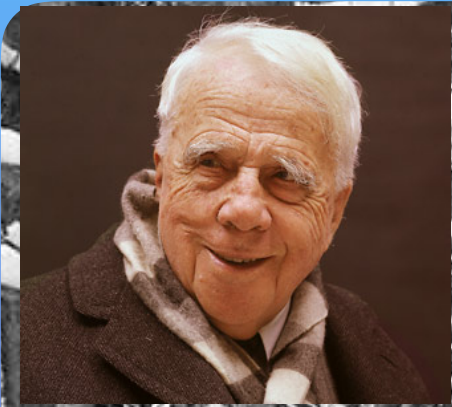
(1874-1963)



(1917-1977)



Robert Frost



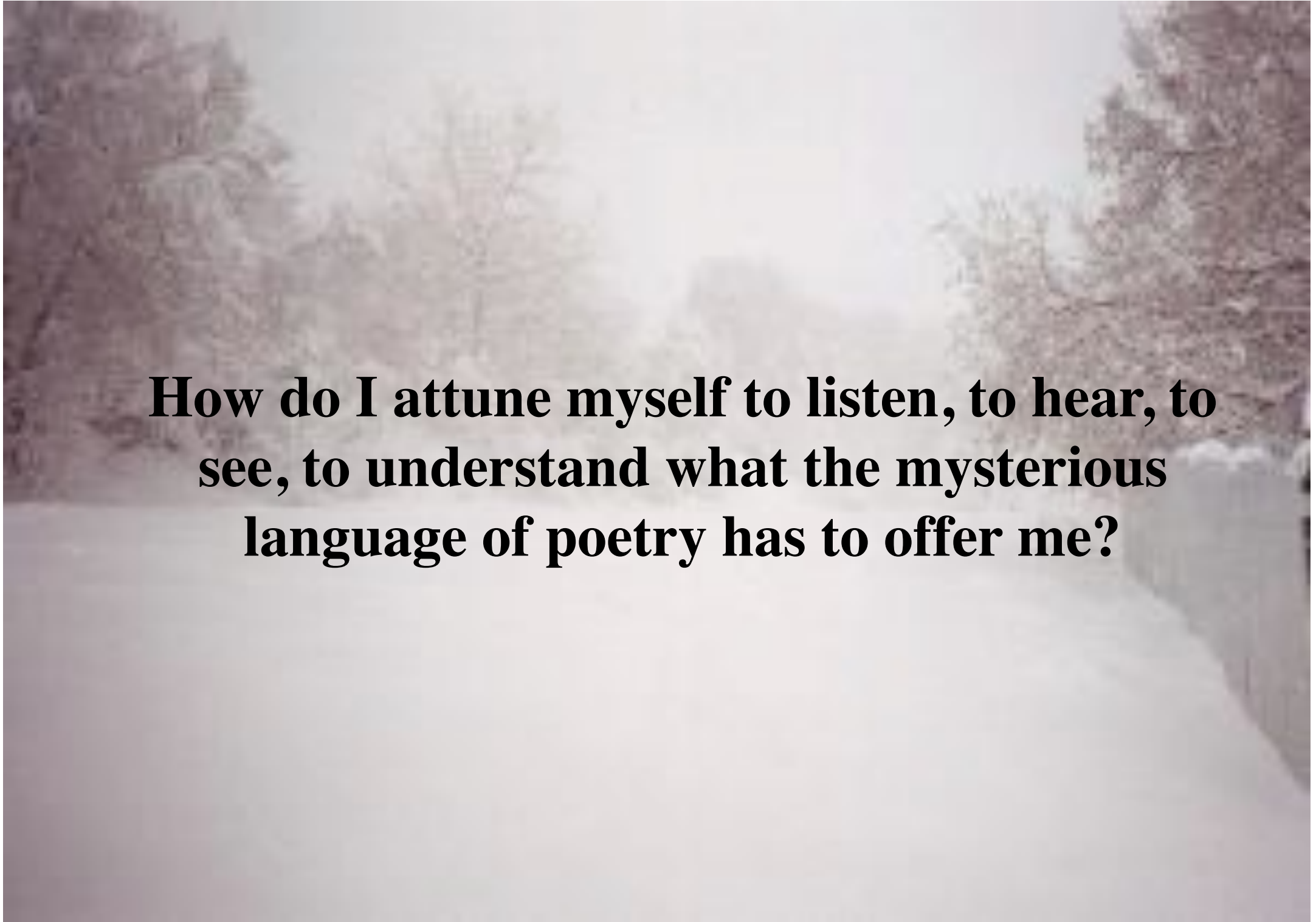
Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

A lover's quarrel with the world- Part 2

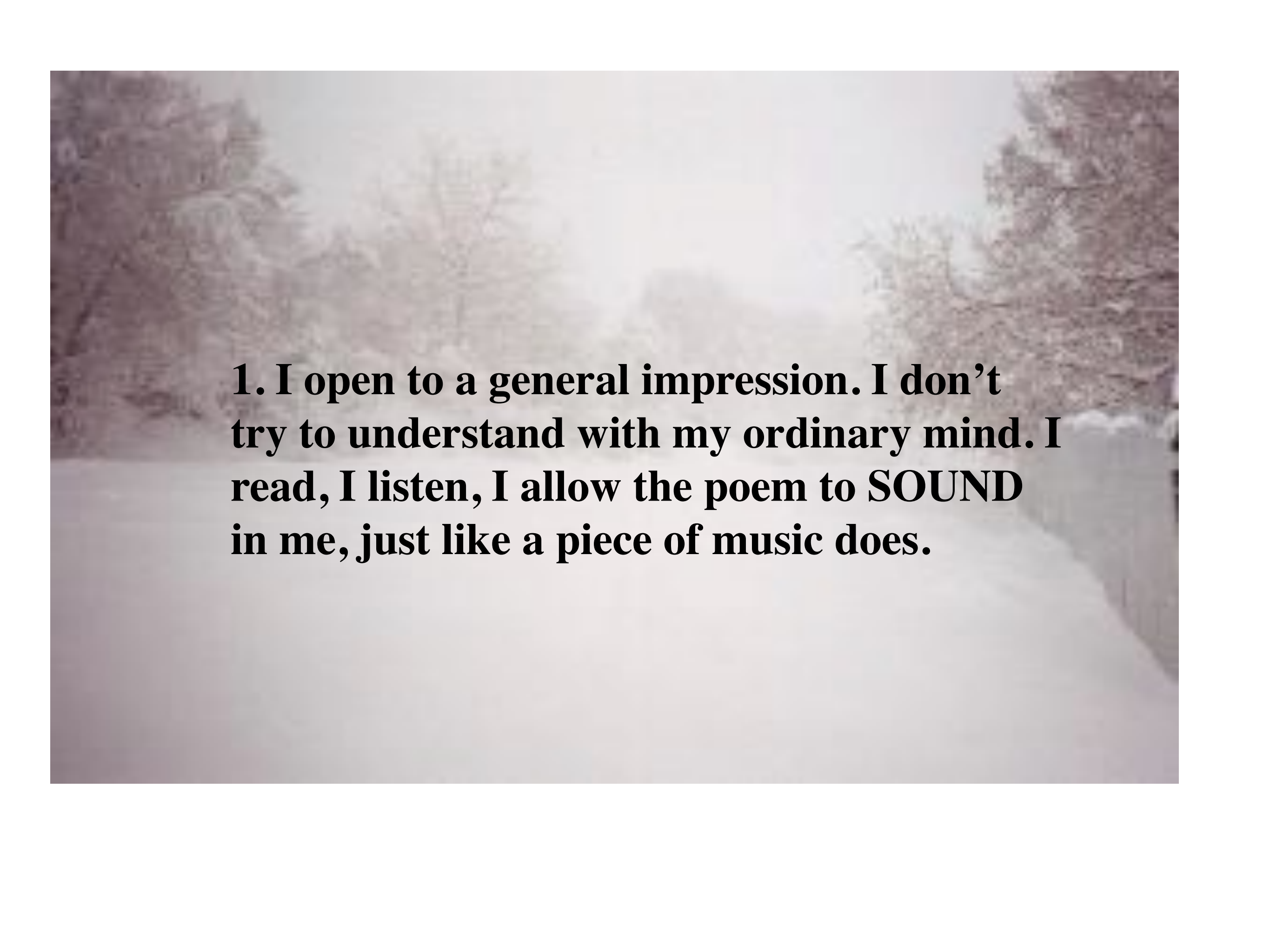
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DgPhaPnbC9A>



"A poem begins in delight and ends in wisdom...it runs a course of lucky events, and ends in a clarification of life." **"The Figure a Poem Makes"**

A misty, foggy landscape with trees and a path. The scene is hazy and atmospheric, with a path leading into the distance. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

**How do I attune myself to listen, to hear, to
see, to understand what the mysterious
language of poetry has to offer me?**



1. I open to a general impression. I don't try to understand with my ordinary mind. I read, I listen, I allow the poem to SOUND in me, just like a piece of music does.



2. I look for patterns in the poem; patterns of meaning; patterns of sound; repeated sentence patterns....

As for instance in “*Desert Places*”

Robert Frost

Desert Places

Snow **falling** and night **falling** fast, oh, fast
In a field I looked into going past,
And the ground almost covered smooth in snow,
But a few weeds and stubble showing last.

The woods around it have it - it is theirs.
All animals are smothered in their lairs.
I am too absent-spirited to count;
The **loneliness** includes me unawares.

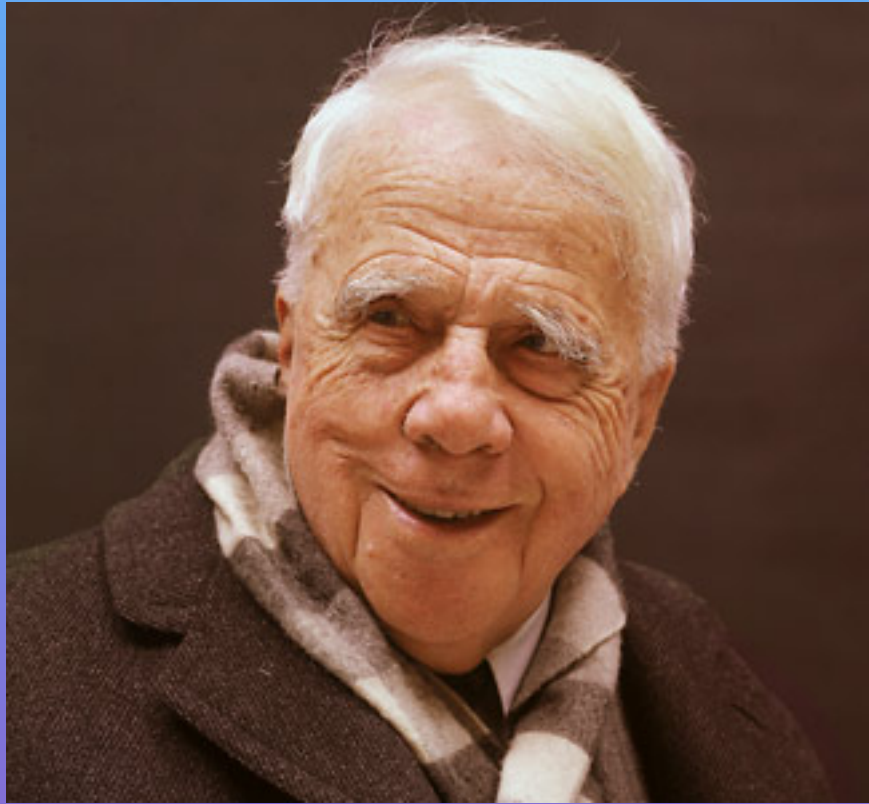
And lonely as it is, that **loneliness**
Will be more **lonely** ere it will be less –
A blanker whiteness of benighted snow
With no expression, nothing to express.

They cannot scare me with their empty spaces
Between stars - on stars where no human race is.
I have it in me so much nearer home
To scare myself with my own desert places.





Robert Frost



The Road Not Taken

Fire and Ice

Design

Neither Out Far Nor In Deep

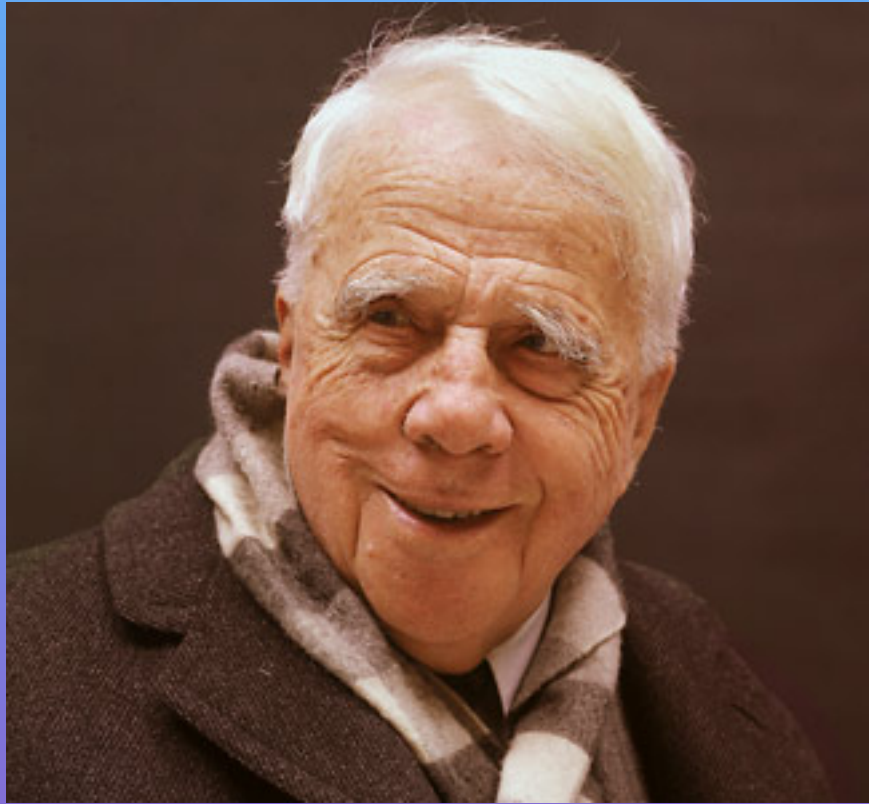
Directive

Poems that have some philosophical or didactic purpose

A lover's quarrel with the world- Part 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-1bfTG6Prlw>

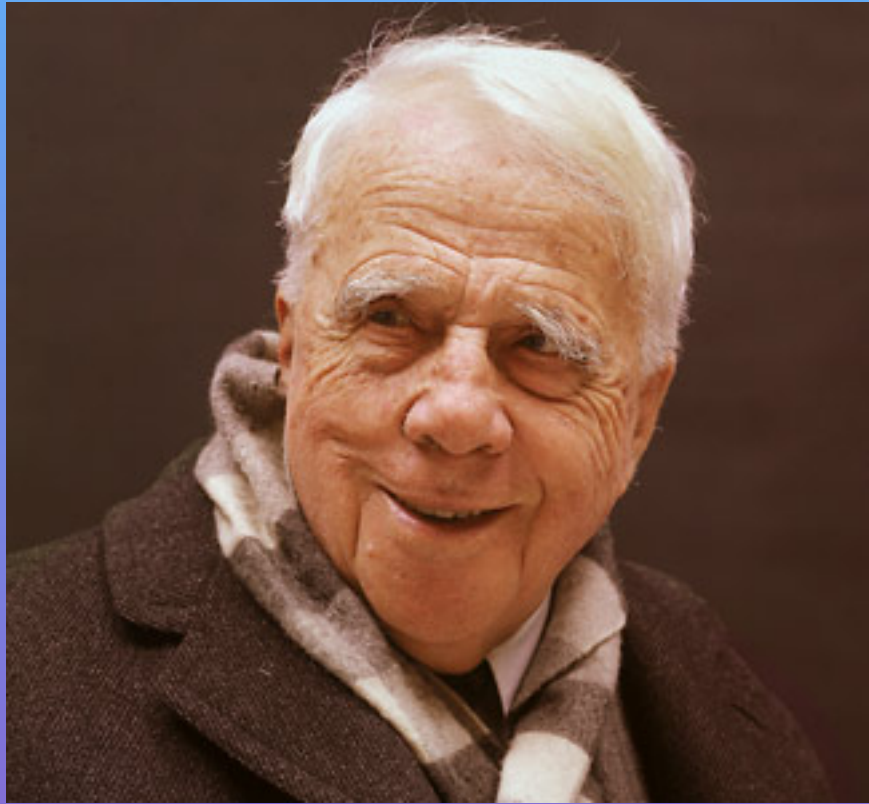
Robert Frost



**The Pasture
Mowing
After Apple Picking
Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening
Birches**

Poems that seem on the surface to be about mundane events but that evoke a sense of the ineffable, even a sense of the sacred...

Robert Frost



Mending Wall
The Death of the Hired Man
“Out Out...”

Poems that dramatise human affairs often with a focus on death

Robert Lowell

Early Poetry (c 1946): densely textured, opaque- during his Catholic phase.

“The Quaker Graveyard in Nantucket”
“Mr Edwards and the Spider”

Around 1959 Lowell began writing
CONFESSIOAL POETRY

“Skunk Hour”



Robert Lowell

Political Anti-War Poetry:

Robert Lowell read “For the Union Dead”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WAKgNI92HrE>



The White Officers taking life and honor in their hands cast in their lot with men of a despised race unproven in war and risked death as inciters of servile insurrection if taken prisoners besides encountering all the common perils of camp march and battle. The Black rank and file volunteered when disaster clouded the Union Cause. Served without pay for eighteen months till given that of white troops. Faced threatened enslavement if captured. Were brave in action. Patient under heavy and dangerous labors. And cheerful amid hardships and privations. Together they gave to the Nation and the World undying proof that Americans of African descent possess the pride, courage and devotion of the patriot soldier. One hundred and eighty thousand such Americans enlisted under the Union Flag in MDCCCLXIII-MDCCCLXV

