

## Before You Read

# Glory, Glory . . . , Birds Circling at Dusk, and Bamboo Grove

## Connect to the Haiku

Have you heard the expression “Less is more”? Do you agree with this expression? How would you describe a scene from nature, using as few words as possible?

**List** Think of a scene from nature. Make a list of words and short phrases that describe how the scene looks and how it makes you feel.

## Build Background

Haiku is an ancient form of poetry from Japan.

- After World War II, haiku became popular around the world. It is still very popular in Japan.
- Traditionally, nature is the subject matter of haiku. However, modern writers have used this form to explore a wide variety of topics.
- A traditional haiku has three lines, with five syllables in the first and third lines and seven syllables in the middle line.

## Set Purposes for Reading

### BQ BIG Question

As you read these haiku, notice how each poet expresses his or her feelings about life and nature. What recurring themes or characteristics do the poems share? What makes them different?

### Literary Element Imagery

**Imagery** is language that appeals to the senses and helps the reader see, hear, feel, smell, and taste the scenes described. Images help suggest emotions and establish mood, or atmosphere. As you read, look for examples of language that appeals to the five senses and ask yourself what emotions and moods the imagery creates.



Literature Online

**Author Search** For more about Raymond R. Patterson, Ann Atwood, and Matsuo Bashō, go to [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com) and enter QuickPass code GL29763u3.

## Learning Objectives

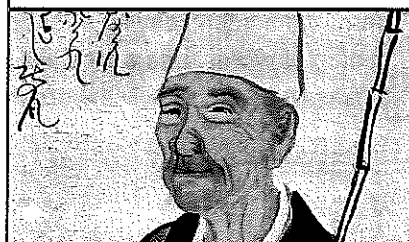
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In studying these texts, you will focus on the following objectives:

### Literary Study:

Analyzing haiku.  
Analyzing imagery.

## Meet the Authors



### Matsuo Bashō

Matsuo Bashō was born into the samurai, or warrior class, in Japan and started writing poetry at the age of nine. He later taught poetry to many devoted students. Bashō was probably born in 1644; he died in 1694.

Haiku is a living art form. Many contemporary poets have experimented with the form, including **Raymond R.**

**Patterson** and **Ann Atwood**.

Patterson was born in 1929. He is a former director of Black Poets Reading. Atwood was influenced by nature throughout her life. She was born in 1913; she died in 1992.



# *Glory, Glory*

Haiku by  
Raymond R. Patterson

Across Grandmother's knees  
A kindly sun  
Laid a yellow quilt.

**Imagery** What sensory details help you picture the scene in the poem? To what senses does this image appeal?

# Birds Circling at Dusk

Haiku by Ann Atwood

Birds circling at dusk.  
The first night of my journey—  
yet how far from home!

**Imagery** What emotion  
does the image in this  
poem create?

# Bamboo Grove

Haiku by  
Matsuo Bashō



Song of the cuckoo:  
in the grove of great bamboos,  
moonlight seeping through.

**BQ** **BIG Question**  
How does the poet feel  
about nature? How can  
you tell?

## After You Read

### Respond and Think Critically

1. What are the settings of the three haiku? Describe them. [Identify]
2. In each haiku, what words or phrases provide clues to the time of day? [Identify]
3. In what ways are the three haiku similar and different? Explain. [Compare]
4. In your opinion, which poem makes the most effective use of the fewest words? Explain. [Evaluate]
5. **Literary Element** Imagery Describe the image in the first haiku. What feeling or mood does this image bring to mind? [Interpret]
6. **BQ** **BIG Question** Which poem best matches your own feelings about nature? Explain. [Connect]

### Spelling Link

Spelling is related to sound. Spelling is also related to meaning. Notice that these words have similar meanings, even though some of their vowel sounds are different:

considerate → consideration

When you are unsure of a word's spelling, think about whether it is related to a word that you already know. Doing so may give you a clue to the correct spelling.

**Practice** The following word pairs have similar meanings. Write each word pair on a sheet of paper. Say each word aloud. Circle the vowel that sounds different in each word pair.

describe → description  
harmony → harmonious  
courtesy → courteous

### Writing

**Write a Stanza** Haiku consist of one stanza with three lines and traditionally have five syllables in the first and third lines and seven syllables in the middle line. Write a haiku on a subject related to nature. The list you made earlier may give you ideas for imagery.

### TIP

#### Interpreting

To interpret the image in "Glory, Glory . . ." follow these steps:

- Reread the poem. Imagine how you would draw this scene.
- Think about the image that the sun's "yellow quilt" suggests.
- Consider how the image might express the speaker's feelings about Grandmother.

**FOLDABLES** Keep track of your ideas about the **BIG Question** in your unit Foldable.



Literature Online

#### Selection Resources

For Selection Quizzes, eFlashcards, and Reading-Writing Connection activities, go to [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com) and enter QuickPass code GL29763u3.

## Before You Read

# Where Mountain Lion Lay Down with Deer

## Connect to the Poem

Think about a special place outdoors. What makes this place special to you?

**Graphic Organizer** Create a graphic organizer like the one below. In the box in the center, briefly describe your special outdoor place. Write your answer to each question in the space provided.

What makes this place special?

How do I feel when I am there?

My Outdoor Place

What is my favorite memory of this place?

How often do I go there?

## Build Background

Leslie Marmon Silko is a Native American from the Laguna Pueblo tribe.

- The Laguna Pueblo reservation is in the west central part of New Mexico. This area is surrounded by cliffs, mesas (flat-topped hills), and canyons. A network of rivers supplies water to the region.
- Pueblo culture is closely tied to nature. Both living and nonliving things are believed to be powerful. Harmony with nature is central to Pueblo traditions.
- The Pueblo people's belief in the power of nature and in living in harmony with nature can be seen in "Where Mountain Lion Lay Down with Deer."

## Meet Leslie Marmon Silko



*"I see myself as a member of the global community. . . . When I write, I am writing to the world, not to the United States alone."*

—Leslie Marmon Silko

### Native American Heritage

Leslie Marmon Silko grew up on the Laguna Pueblo Indian Reservation in New Mexico, listening to tales told by her female relatives. These stories gave Silko a sense of identity and inspired her writing. Silko's own stories explore her Pueblo heritage and the conflict between traditional and modern ways.

**Literary Works** Silko has written novels, essays, and poetry collections, including *Voices Under One Sky*.

Leslie Marmon Silko was born in 1948.



### Literature Online

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## Set Purposes for Reading

### **BQ** BIG Question

As you read, ask yourself, how can one's respect for nature show a connection to the past?

### **Literary Element** Free Verse

**Free verse** is poetry that has no fixed pattern of rhyme, line length, stanza arrangement, or rhythm. Repetition and strong images are often used in free verse. The arrangement of lines and stanzas also adds to the poem's meaning.

Free verse enables poets to express their feelings and ideas in new and unique ways. Some poets use free verse to give their poems the natural, realistic rhythms of conversation. As you read, pay attention to the ways in which the word choice, imagery, and arrangement of lines help express the poem's meaning.

### **Reading Strategy** Interpret Meaning

When you **interpret meaning**, you use your own understanding of the world to decide what the events or ideas in a literary work mean.

Interpreting meaning helps you understand the author's beliefs and feelings. It also helps you connect your own beliefs and feelings to the literary work. To interpret meaning, ask yourself:

- What is the author really trying to say here?
- In what way does the poem relate to my understanding of the world?
- What larger ideas might the poem be about?

Use a graphic organizer like the one below.

*Paraphrase the line or stanza.*

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*What images does the poet use?*

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*What feelings do you have when you read the line or stanza?*

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*What deeper meaning does the line or stanza convey?*

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### **Learning Objectives**

*For pages 362–367*

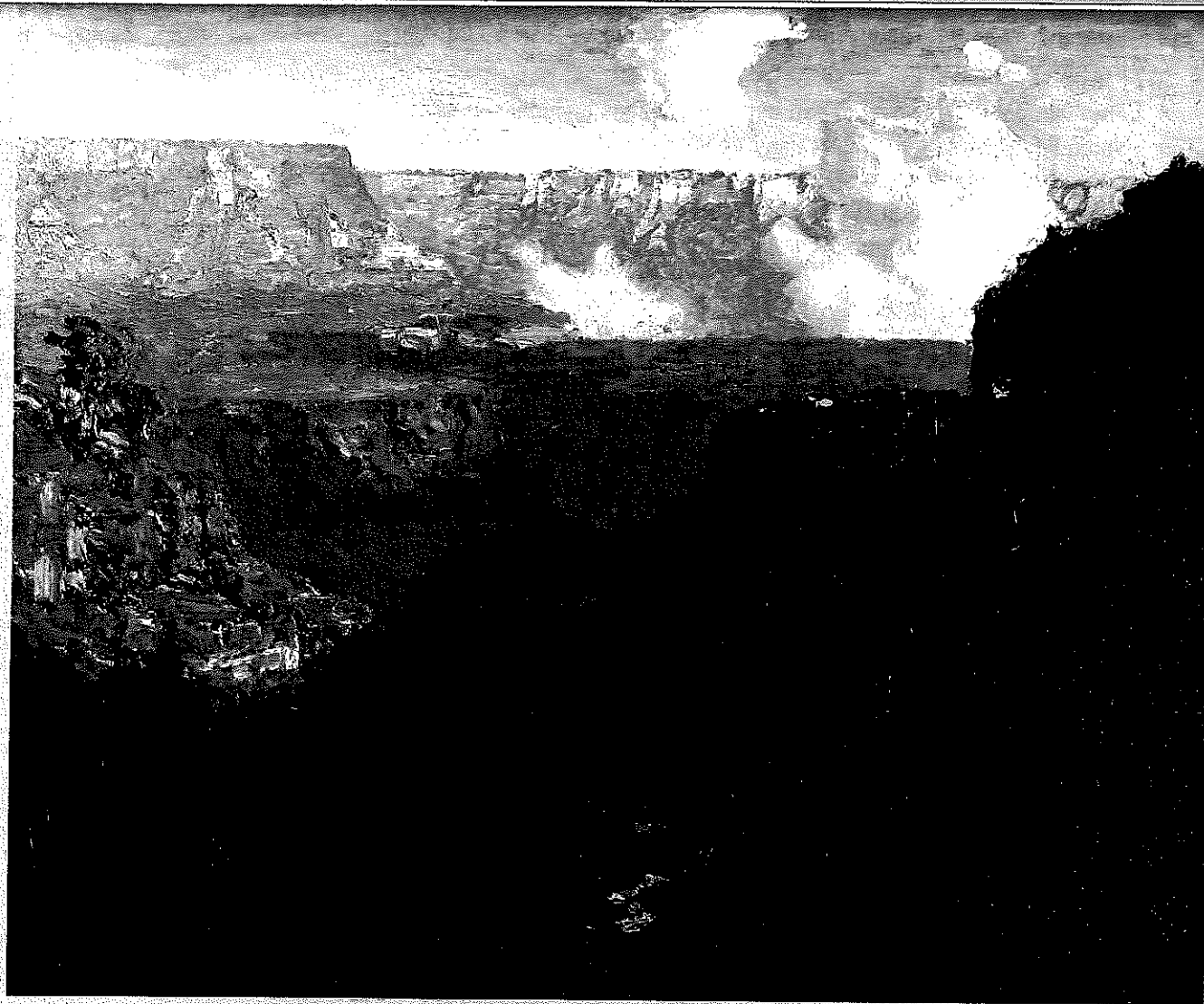
In studying this text, you will focus on the following objectives:

**Literary Study:** Analyzing poetic form and structure.

### **TRY IT**

**Interpret Meaning** You interpret meaning every day. For example, think about a time when a friend was happy, angry, or upset. Could you tell how this person felt without even talking to him or her? What clues about his or her emotions did your friend give you?





*Looking Across the Grand Canyon*, c.1910. Edward Henry Potthast. Oil on canvas. Phoenix Art Museum, AZ.

View the Art What feelings do you get when you look at this painting? How might the painting help you understand the meaning of the poem?





# Where Mountain Lion Lay Down with Deer

— Leslie Marmon Silko —

I climb the black rock mountain  
stepping from day to day  
silently.

I smell the wind for my ancestors  
5 pale blue leaves  
crushed wild mountain smell.

Returning  
up the gray stone cliff  
where I descended

10 a thousand years ago.

Returning to faded black stone  
where mountain lion lay down with deer.

It is better to stay up here  
watching wind's reflection  
15 in tall yellow flowers.

The old ones who remember me are gone  
the old songs are all forgotten  
and the story of my birth.

How I danced in snow-frost moonlight  
20 distant stars to the end of the Earth

How I swam away  
in freezing mountain water 21  
narrow mossy canyon tumbling down 22  
out of the mountain 24  
out of the deep canyon stone 25  
down 26  
the memory 27

spilling out 28  
into the world. 29

## **BQ** BIG Question

What does the speaker's silence suggest about her feelings toward nature?

**Free Verse** In what way does the line length and arrangement add to the poem's meaning?

**Interpret Meaning** Explain the feeling that the speaker is expressing in these lines.

## After You Read

### Respond and Think Critically

1. What is the setting of this poem? Include details from the poem in your answer. [Recall]
2. What does the title suggest about the setting of the poem? Explain. [Infer]
3. What does the line "stepping from day to day" tell you about the speaker and the setting? Explain. [Interpret]
4. Reread line 4. Why does the speaker mention her ancestors? Why, in your opinion, does the setting remind the speaker of the people who came before her? Explain. [Analyze]
5. Reread lines 14–15. What is the speaker describing? Explain. [Interpret]
6. **BQ** **BIG Question** What image of nature from the poem appeals to you most? Explain. [Evaluate]

### Academic Vocabulary

Leslie Marmon Silko's poem shows how important it is to **retain** our connections to nature and to our ancestors. Using context clues, try to figure out the meaning of the word *retain* in the sentence above. Check your guess in a dictionary.

### TIP

#### Inferring

To answer question 2, think about what the poem says and use your own knowledge.

- Recall what you know about mountain lions and deer. Consider whether they would sleep side by side.
- Think about the Pueblo belief that everything in the natural world is powerful. Identify ways in which the poem reflects that belief.

#### FOLDABLES Study Organizer

Keep track of your ideas about the **BIG Question** in your unit Foldable.

LOG  
ON



Literature Online

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