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College Writing 2

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For this assignment, I selected the poem "The road not taken by Robert Frost. " This stood out to me precisely because of Frost's ability to write and how it can be applied to the real world. Furthermore, the poem connects to real life and the decisions we face in our current reality and existence. Decisions that we are posed with where sometimes we may see the possibilities in front of our faces, but whatever path we choose affects our story. And can significantly impact our lives, either for good or bad. We are also picking what's best for us in life and not for others. I will include two peer-reviewed articles and an analysis of both, aswell as my analysis of the poem. So without any further ba, let's get right into it.

Starting with my analysis, I enjoyed how it started with a connection to the title. When I think about the road not taken, I think of choices Where you would be faced with going down one path or the other. Where opting out isn't an option and a critical choice must and will be made. I felt as though Frost weighed the options out. In the second stanza, saying "And I looked down as far as I could to where it bent in the undergrowth, then took the other, as just as fair, and having perhaps the better claim because it was greasy and wanted to wear."This language is peculiar, but we can see that Frost articulates this as formulating which road to go down. Looking at some physical characteristics and about to make a choice. My view of this is connected to everyday life decisions and choices. Ever heard your mother say to be careful who you hang around? I felt it conveyed a tone of picking what's best for you and your destined path in life—not always being able to see how it will fully affect you in the future but critically breaking down by process of elimination. Of which road will best impact you in whatever your future

endeavors are. Making this choice accepting that we will go through tough times throughout, but one route can be beneficial, and the other road can be filled with trouble and horrible things. The 4th stanza of the poem also says, "Two roads diverged in a wood, and it took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference. I feel like this impacts the meaning even more because of another implication of application. When we see people doing a particular thing, we may want to indulge or go where the majority goes. However, being different and going on your specific journey leads to a better place because you aren't a follower; you are a leader. Leading is where you create and write your story and do what's best for you and not the majority.

My last application will be one that can be applied to the spiritual sense, even though this detours a little bit from the thesis it connects. As people in society, we are faced with whether to follow God or whatever we choose. However, something that relates to this is a verse in the Bible, Matthew 7:13 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way that leads to life, only some find it. This shows how there are also two paths, which are beneficial and lead to new life and good things. And the other, which leads to the ways of this world. Paths that lead to new life or perishing because of what we see . What we may think is more appealing and more pleasing which comes out to be a trap in the end .

I selected an article for this poem titled "Diverging and converging paths": horizontal movement in Robert Frost's Mountain interval. Written by Robert. T . McPhillips. What resonated with me was the introduction paragraph. McPhillips stated, "Robert Frost suggests the necessity of choice and the subsequent rejection of other possibilities. " What we have been breaking down this is choice. But I like how this short analysis focused on an internal aspect when selecting a "path" to go down on. The following source I am using is "The Humanistic Idealism of Robert Frost, "written by Hyatt Howe Waggoner. What stood out to me was, "Although Robert Frost's

poetic position seems as secure as any contemporary poet's, the philosophical point of view is consistently expressed. " In this poem, Frost did a great job explaining the meaning, conveying a point using imagery, descriptive language, and consistency. Philosophical issues of view related to one knowledge, nature, and the reality of existence. I felt all these elements connected in the poem. Life isn't a game but includes much mental perception and understanding. A mind is a powerful tool, and Frost explained this extensively. I liked how it was able to be connected to several different things . Showing versatility as well . Wrapping it all up, this is my summary of the poem written by Robert frost, "The road not taken. " With my critical sources, this was a great poem, and I hope you have enjoyed it. And hope you did as well.

Work Cited

McPhillips, Robert T. "Diverging and Converging Paths: Horizontal and Vertical Movement in Robert Frost's Mountain Interval." *American Literature*, vol. 58, no. 1, 1986, pp. 82–98. *JSTOR*, <https://doi.org/10.2307/2925945>. Accessed 28 Mar. 2023.

Waggoner, Hyatt Howe. "The Humanistic Idealism of Robert Frost." *American Literature*, vol. 13, no. 3, 1941, pp. 207–23. *JSTOR*, <https://doi.org/10.2307/2921127>. Accessed 28 Mar. 2023.

