

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud

by William Wordsworth, 1807



LO: To explore a poem

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud by William Wordsworth

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the Milky Way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed – and gazed – but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.



1. Why do you think did he chose the simile 'lonely as a cloud'?
2. What was the crowd he saw?
3. Where were they? What were they doing?
4. How does the poet contrast the cloud and the crowd?
5. In the second paragraph, what does he compare the daffodils to?
6. What were the daffodils doing in the second paragraph?
7. What was better, the waves or the daffodils? How do you know?
8. How is the author feeling at the start of the poem? How does he feel by the end of verse three? How do you know?
9. Where is the poet in the first three paragraphs? Where is he in the past paragraph?
10. How is his mood at the start of paragraph four? What does he do to change this?
11. When you feel worried, anxious or sad, what do you do?
12. What experience would you like to write a poem about?