Art A Day CHALLENGE:
A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

Gertrude of Wyoming: A Pennsylvanian Tale

(1809) is a romantic epic in Spenserian stanza composed by Scottish poet Thomas Campbell (1777–1844). The poem was well received, but not a financial success for its author.

The setting of the poem is the Wyoming Valley of Pennsylvania and the massacre that occurred there on July 3, 1778. On that day, more than three hundred American Revolutionaries died at the hands of Loyalists and their Iroquois allies. At the time, it was widely believed that the attack was led by Joseph Brant; in the poem, Brant is described as the “Monster Brant” because of the atrocities committed, although it was later determined that Brant had not actually been present. The poem has been criticized for other historical inaccuracies [https://en.wikipedia.org/].

The poem begins:

On Susquehanna's side, fair Wyoming!
Although the wild-flower on thy ruin'd wall,
And roofless homes, a sad remembrance bring,
Of what thy gentle people di'd befall;
Yet thou wert once the loveliest land of all
That see the Atlantic wave their morn restore.
Sweet land! may I thy lost delights recall,
And paint thy Gertrude in her bowers of yore,
Whose beauty was the love of Pennsylvania's shore!

To read the rest go to http://www.gutenberg.org/files/59788/59788-h/59788-h.htm#GERTRUDE_OF_WYOMING_1

Stuff you'll need: Materials are up to you! Read through the challenge and make your decision based on your idea!

LOOK at this painting of a woman's profile. It is called Gertrude of Wyoming and it shares the title of a very well-known poem. Pay attention to the landscape that surrounds her. Notice how her skin and white dress seem to glow against the dark background. Check out the poem.

THINK Find a poem that speaks to you. Here is a list of poems every kid should read: https://www.poetryfoundation.org/articles/88782/essential-children39s-collection-classic-poetry After each stanza or verse, stop reading an picture in your mind what you’ve just read.

MAKE Select a verse that really stood out to you. Create a drawing, painting, photograph, sculpture, sidewalk chalk drawing, or collage that represents how you interpreted or imagined the poem. Create what you see in your mind as you were reading!

SHARE your creation and the poem you created!

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