

# The Spirit of Place

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## A poem for four voices

Here is just the beginning of a **horror story**. Where will it end?

- 1 1: There was a **sea**  
2: a blue sea  
3: a **secret blue sea**  
4: and in this **sea**  
1: there was an **island**  
2: a **spiky island**  
3: a **spiky green island**  
4: and in this **island**  
1: there was a **valley**  
2: a **deep valley**  
3: a **hot deep valley**  
4: and in this **valley**
- 13 1: there was a **tree**  
2: a **vast tree**  
3: a **vast ancient tree**  
4: and in the roots of this **tree**  
1: there was an **egg**  
2: a **historic egg**  
3: a **prehistoric egg**  
4: and in this **egg**  
1: there was a **creature**  
2: a **live creature**  
3: a **creature so wild**  
4: so full of **energy**  
All: *the old tree trembled.*
- 26 1: And in a **hurricane**  
2: a **tearing hurricane**  
3: a **fierce tearing hurricane**  
4: that **tree cracked**  
All: *cracked to the roots.*  
1: And out of those **roots**  
2: those **shattered roots**  
3: **roots laid bare** in the howl  
4: climbed the **creature**  
1: the **wild creature**  
2: so full of **energy**  
3: so full of **destruction**  
4: it **shrieked** for **escape.**
- 39 1: There was a **sea**  
2: a **blue sea**  
3: a **boiling blue sea**  
4: and in this **sea**  
1: there was an **island**  
2: a **spiky island**  
3: an **island** in **turmoil**  
4: it was ready to **plunge**  
1: **plunge** into the **sea**  
2: the **boiling sea**  
3: and **swim, swim, swim**  
All: *towards us all.*

## Challenge 2

1 Do you think the island sounded welcoming at the beginning of the poem?

Yes  No

Explain your answer using ideas from the poem.

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2d

2 marks

2 What are the first words in the poem that warn us we should fear the creature?

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2g

1 mark

3 Find and copy three powerful words the poet uses in verse 3 (beginning "And in a hurricane") to show the strength of the wind.

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2g

3 marks

4 What is the impact of the poet's use of four voices? Explain your answer using ideas from the poem.

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2f

2 marks

5 Why do you think the poet decided to write about a storm at the point in the story when the creature is born?

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2f

1 mark

6 The last verse begins by nearly repeating the lines at the beginning of the first verse.

Why do you think the poet changes "secret" (verse 1) to "boiling" (verse 4)?

Explain why the poet used **both** of the words.

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2h

2 marks

Write the question number and then answer the questions:

**Answers:**