

The Color of the Moon Poetry Activity Sheet

For years, man has been fascinated by the moon. American artists have used the moon as inspiration for everything from paintings to poetry. We challenge **you** to use the moon as inspiration for your own poem. Explore the exhibit and see all the different interpretations of the moon. Below is an example of a poem by E.E. Cummings about the moon and his painting Entitled *Pale Moon*, featured in the exhibit.

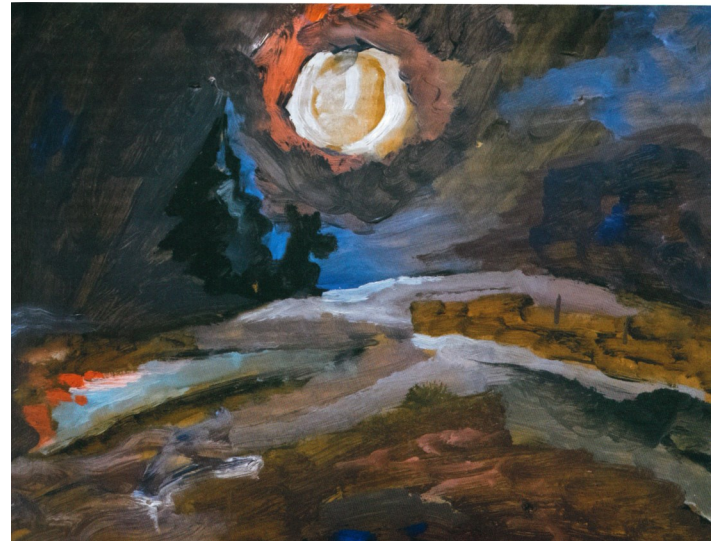
who knows if the moon's by e.e. cummings

*who knows if the moon's
a balloon, coming out of a keen city
in the sky—filled with pretty people?
(and if you and i should*

*get into it, if they
should take me and take you into their balloon,
why then
we'd go up higher with all the pretty people*

*than houses and steeples and clouds:
go sailing
away and away sailing into a keen
city which nobody's ever visited, where*

*always
 it's
 Spring) and everyone's
in love and flowers pick themselves*



E. E. (Edward Estlin) Cummings, *Pale Moon*, 1939, Oil on cardboard, Ken Lopez Bookseller

Now it is your turn! Write your own poem about the moon on the back of this sheet. Let your mind wander—what does the moon remind you of? How does it inspire you? Use a poetry form of your own choice. These could include a haiku, cinquain, free verse, etc.