

Quiz A: RL.4.4

Read the passage. Then answer the question.

Woodman, Spare That Tree!

George Pope Morris

Woodman, spare that tree!
Touch not a single bough!
In youth it sheltered me,
And I'll protect it now.

- 5 'T was my forefather's hand
That placed it near his cot;
There, woodman, let it stand,
Thy ax shall harm it not.

- That old familiar tree,
10 Whose glory and renown
Are spread o'er land and sea—
And wouldst though hew¹ it down?
Woodman, forbear² thy stroke!
Cut not its earth-bound ties;
15 Oh, spare that aged oak
Now towering to the skies!

- When but an idle boy,
I sought its grateful shade;
In all their gushing joy
20 Here, too, my sisters played.
My mother kissed me here;
My father pressed my hand—
Forgive this foolish tear,
But let that old oak stand.
25 My heart-strings round thee cling,
Close as thy bark, old friend!
Here shall the wild-bird sing,
And still thy branches bend.
Old tree! The storm still brave!

