What is the poem about?

What do you think of the vocabulary the poet has used?

What does it make you think of?

What do you see/hear/think/wonder?

How does it make you feel?

Are there any parts you are unsure about?

Which words would you use to describe Matilda?

I like to stay up

by Grace Nichols

Grace Nichols - I Like to Stay Up on Vimeo









bauxite (rock)

Most of the country of Guyana is covered in tropical rainforest and, despite having rich reserves of bauxite, gold and timber, it has struggled to overcome poverty and attract investment to bolster its economy.

I like to stay up by Grace Nichols



I like to stay up
and listen
when big people talking
jumbie stories
I does feel
so tingly and excited
inside me
But when my mother say
"Girl, time for bed"
Then is when
I does feel a dread
Then is when
I does jump into me bed
Then is when
I does cover up
from me feet to me head
Then is when
I does wish I didn't listen
to no stupid jumbie story
Then is when I does wish I read
me book instead

From Under the Moon and Over the Sea
("Jumbie" is a Guyanese word for "ghost".)