**The Eagle**

He clasps the crag with crooked hands; Close to the sun in lonely lands,

Ringed with the azure world, he stands.

The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;

He watches from his mountain walls,

And like a thunderbolt, he falls.

— Alfred Lord Tennyson

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1. Examine the metaphor **'He clasps the crag with crooked hands.'** What literal description of the eagle's actions does this metaphor provide? What explicit qualities are attributed to the eagle through this metaphor?"

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1. Consider the emotions or qualities that might be implied by the metaphor and simile. What feelings or characteristics could be associated with the eagle's **'crooked hands'** and falling **'like a thunderbolt'**? How do these implied meanings enrich our understanding of the eagle?

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