Read the following poem then write a response about your first impression. Afterward, paraphrase any lines/sentences you may not clearly understand. Lastly, using your literary terms and definitions handout, identify as many poetic devices as possible.

**There Is No Word for Goodbye**

**by Mary Tall Mountain**

Sokoya, I said, looking through

the net of wrinkles into

wise black pools

of her eyes.

5 What do you say in Athabaskan

when you leave each other?

What is the word

for goodbye?

A shade of feeling rippled

10 the wind-tanned skin.

Ah, nothing, she said,

watching the river flash.

She looked at me close.

We just say, Tlaa. That means,

15 See you.

We never leave each other.

When does your mouth

say goodbye to your heart?

She touched me light

20 as a bluebell.

You forget when you leave us,

You’re so small then.

We don’t use that word.

We always think you’re coming back,

25 but if you don’t,

we’ll see you some place else.

You understand.

There is no word for goodbye