

Engaging with Mary Mattingly's Open Ocean: Writing Prompt

Mary Mattingly includes a compelling Richard E. Langford photograph of a kind of 'ghost town' left behind on an island in the Galapagos. Langford said, " a whaling venture by the Norwegians, back in the 1920s. It all went kaput...And they had foundations for houses here... they built roads into nowhere." A nearby painting of Robert Hauschild shows a lonely view of an abandoned canning facility. The artist writes, "there is a message to be found here. When they strip the forests of the West, and the desert comes, the people will be sad. When the sardines ran out because of overfishing, Cannery Row was sad."

How does industry leave **boom towns**
behind?