

## Readers' Questions and Writing Prompts

for *Stone Mirrors: The Sculpture and Silence of Edmonia Lewis* by Jeannine Atkins

1. Where do you think Edmonia felt most at home?
2. How did her feelings about being Ojibwe, a person of color, and biracial change through her life?
3. Do you have a favorite poem? Can you explain how or why some of its lines speak to you?
4. How do you think the myth of a lone or lonesome artist came to be? How does this account of Edmonia Lewis's life as an artist fit or challenge that myth? What role did friendship play in her creative life?
5. Find a nonfiction account of Edmonia Lewis's life. What are the differences between that account and the verse in *Stone Mirrors*?
6. Name other people who lived during the time of the Civil War. How were their lives like and different from that of Edmonia Lewis?
7. Find photographs of Edmonia Lewis's sculptures online or in a book. What surprises you about her art?
8. An ekphrastic poem is based on a response to a work of art. If you're lucky enough to live near a museum that displays one of Edmonia Lewis's sculptures, visit it and write what comes to your mind as you gaze. Or find a picture in a book or online. What does the work of art seem to say to you?