

Source Analysis #4

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The text talks about the history of the Mississippi River, as well as its other names, and how historic events surrounded and were impacted by the river's presence. He talks about him wanting people to appreciate the river more and see more of the watershed's beauty.

In my opinion, I think the history related to the names is really interesting. The French name specifically, "battre", meaning "to hit, to beat, to batter". I like that name in relation to the river because rivers and other water sources can be very destructive to their surroundings. While this sounds bad, it also creates very beautiful landscapes that people appreciate, such as the Grand Canyon. While people do like these places, they don't appreciate how it came to be. It's because of rivers like the Mississippi that they can be created. On the contrary, it can also do damage in a negative way. When the water erodes things such as faulty pipes, infected water valves and other things like that. It can bring chemicals and contaminated water into populated areas like what happened in Flint, Michigan and Buffalo, New York.

In conclusion, while water can be harmful in certain situations, it can also create beautiful landscapes for people to enjoy. Like the author, Bruce Upholt, says, more people need to take their time and enjoy the beauty of all rivers around them, not just the Mississippi.