John James Audubon: A Natural Artist 815
The Six-Minute Solution, Sopris West

John James was born on the island of Haiti in 1785. Because his father was French, he (spent) his early years in France. When (John) James was eighteen years old, his (father) sent him to oversee some lead (mines) he owned in southeastern Pennsylvania. He (met) his neighbor’s daughter, Lucy Bakewell, (in) 1803. John and Lucy were married in 1808 (and) moved to Louisville, Kentucky, to open (a) general store with a business partner.

(While) John’s partner took care of (the) business, John was busy drawing birds. (He) spent most of his days out (in) the woods looking for birds while (Lucy) raised their children. The general store (failed), and it was the first of (many) of Audubon’s businesses to fail. (Since) Audubon was in debt, he was (arrested) by the sheriff and put into (debtor)’s prison in 1919. The sheriff took (all) of his belongings except for his (portfolio) of bird drawings, which he thought (was) worthless.

After he was out of (jail), Audubon became a street artist, drawing “(while) you wait” portraits. He only worked (in) water paints and pastel chalks because (he) did not know how to paint (in) oils. Audubon began a journey to (paint) all of the birds in America, (but) he was unable to find a (publisher) to publish his book of bird (paintings) in this country. He went to (Europe) in 1826 and was able to get (his) book Birds of America published in 1827. (He) eventually became America’s most famous (wildlife) artist. His work is still the (standard) on which contemporary wildlife artists are (judged). The Audubon Society, a wildlife protection (organization), is named after John James Audobon.
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