Journal #35

Discuss the diction used in this selection. Why does Wright use certain particular words to discuss his urge to write a story? Explain how his word choices affect the paragraph. You are not writing a plot summary journal entry. Please answer the prompt.

"One day while killing my hour of prayer, I remembered a series of volumes of Indian history I had read the year before. Yes, I knew what I would do; I would write a story about the Indians…But what about them? Well, an Indian girl…I wrote of an Indian maiden, beautiful and reserved, who sat alone upon the bank of a still stream, surrounded by eternal twilight and ancient trees, waiting…The girl was keeping some vow which I could not describe and, not knowing how to develop the story, I resolved that the girl had to die. She rose slowly and walked toward the dark stream, her face stately and cold; she entered the water and walked on until the water reached her shoulders, her chin; then it covered her. Not a murmur or a gasp came from her, even in dying" (chapter 4, 120).