

Prelude - William Wordsworth

Context

Written after his death in 1850

From the Lake district

Autobiographical epic poem

Enjoyed spending days outside in nature

Themes

• Childhood

• Nature

• Time

• Love

Structure

1st person narration, makes it seem personal because he is reminiscing

Enjambment creates regular rhythm

1st stanza about ^{children} childhood then there is a distinct change

Quotes

Analysis

'I heeded not the summons' - took no ^{notice} ~~time~~ when it was time to go home / youthful - enthusiasm / excitement

'I wheel'd about' - language of movement, monosyllabic verbs. quickens pace = energetic

'Hissed along the polished ice' - sibilance mimics sound of ice skates - creates image for reader

'pack loud bellowing' - animal imagery close connection with nature, children's game like hunting = wild

'we flew' - link to 'wheel'd about' language of movement: shows their speed.

'meanwhile the precipices rang loud' (sibilance nature echoing sound back at them)

↓
volta shows a change in tone

'of melancholy not unnoticed' double negative humans can hear the sound but not understand

'Stars Eastward were sparkling clear' - caesura slows down pace lines seem reflective

Death of a Naturalist - Seamus Heaney

Context

4 year old brother killed in car accident
many poems explore the loss of innocence
wrote about childhood and nature

Structure

1st person narrator reflecting on their childhood
lack of rhyme shows how unpredictable change is
2 stanzas explore 2 different sides of nature

Themes

Childhood
Nature
Time
Power

Quotes

"flex clam fastened" language of decay foreshadows narrator's thoughts on nature will change

'gargled delicately' oxymoron - childish narrator enjoys something so disgusting

'warm thick slobber' childlike language - 1st person - narrator reminiscing his childhood

'one hot day when fields were rank' telling a story - Volter thinks opposite but nature hasn't changed just his thoughts

"invaded" "cocked" military language threatening compared to harmless 'daddy' 'mummy' frogs in skatrazat

"sickened, turned, ran" shortest sentence emphasises speed he ran shows reader how disgusted he felt