

Sample H1A

SECTION A: UNSEEN POEM

You must answer Question 1 in the space below.

Harmer presents his experiences at Cider Mill Farm in a very Loving way. He uses alot of imagery and ~~go~~ gives the farm human characteristics "an old tractor that sweated oil" Wich shows us that he thought of it less as a place he stayed but a friend. ~~In the first stanza of the poem~~ its "Still in mid-summer" There is also an heir of sadness to the way he writes about the farm. In the first stanza its "Still in mid-summer". The second stanza writes about "a storm one autumn evening" and in the third he is remembering "one night" when they "drank tea from huge tin mugs" wich makes us think its cold and wintery. The passage from summer to autumn to winter and day to evening to night gives ~~the poem~~ us an idea of how much time Harmer spent on his ~~at the farm~~ ~~the~~ uncles farm, but also gives us a feeling of something darker. Something deteriorating. In the third stanza Harmer talks about his uncles tractor that ~~coughs and~~ "whirred, coughed

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into life" and that "Sweated oil In long black streaks" It ~~makes~~ gives the feeling of an illness the tractor not being what it once was with links into the idea of deterioration too. Also in ^{Harmer's} ~~his~~ last memory of the farm (lines 20-24) There is no mention of his uncle. It makes me think his uncle may have become ill. In the first line of the ~~third~~ fourth stanza, Harmer writes "He's gone now" Where has his uncle gone? It seems strange that they were so close. ~~He puts~~ The way he puts it makes ~~us~~ ^{it} feel like death. ~~The last stanza has a feeling~~

There is a very loose rhyme scheme and structure to this poem, which could suggest the feeling of freedom that Harmer seems to be trying to get across. "Some cattle sheds, a couple of stables" ^{Have} ~~are~~ very vague and relaxed feeling to them, perhaps like Harmer's time at the farm. In the final stanza it's in the present tense, when all the stanzas before were in the past. This gives us the feeling of coming back down to earth, ~~and the stanzas~~ As if before Harmer was remembering

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Something that ~~it~~ could never be anymore.

This idea is reinforced by the line

"But I have been back for one last look"

Hermer presents his experiences lovingly but as a thing of the past. Something that can no longer be.