

Diver 7m

Ap2

7th February 2017

In this poem, Pastan writes about someone's remembering an old memory ~~and~~ daughter leaving home. She refers to leaving to riding a big bike for the first time and the girl eventually not needing her ~~father~~ ^{mother} to keep her up or to keep her from crashing.

↑
word opening

Pastan begins the poem by introducing a memory, 'Wh I taught you at eight to ride a bicycle, looping along beside you, I know this is a memory as it is written in past tense. The word 'Lopping' is another word ~~for~~ for running so why ~~the writer~~ Pastan uses it instead of running is because it makes you read the poem slowly instead of quite fast, if you read it fast it would not have the same effect. At this stage of the poem the mother seems very sad and misses her child ~~with~~ ^{and} the memories they had together. On the next stanza Pastan says 'my own moth rounding' this makes me think that she is shocked that her daughter ~~can~~ is leaving her 'pulling ahead' and turning in her ~~own~~ direction.

only 1 stanza

As ~~the~~ Pastan comes onto the 3rd stanza the poem starts to get a bit faster and the mother is getting more worried that her daughter will crash and need her help again. ~~To think~~ this when Pastan states 'I ~~kept~~ kept waiting for the thud of your crash' but it never says that she the daughter does crash but keeps on getting further and further away from her mother, this could also mean

that here their relationship is getting further and further apart and bonding apart. At this point the mother seems worried and also scared for her daughter.

At the beginning of stanza 4 Pastan consoles me when she says 'while you grew smaller, more breakable', but I don't read it over and over and noticed that she meant more breakable as in more delicate to the outside world and less protected from dangers. In stanza 4 Pastan also goes on saying 'pumping, pumping for your life, screaming with laughter.' This sentence makes me think that the daughter can't wait and is ready to leave and start a new life but, when Pastan says 'pumping for your life' and 'screaming' it makes me feel different it makes me think that the daughter has some doubts and doesn't want to leave her mother.

In stanza 5 It is clear the girl is leaving when ^{Speaker} Pastan says 'the hair flapping behind you like a handkerchief waving goodbye.' I know that she is leaving sad as handkerchiefs are something you could use to get rid of tears. This is a simile as her hair isn't literally a handkerchief but it is like a handkerchief. This end paragraph stanza also makes me think the daughter has left without saying goodbye. At this point the speaker sounds empty and feels like they have nothing left without the memories that she shared with her daughter. (EBS - subject terms) (even more!)
www 'Wow! This is, brilliant Oliver' lol

Naomi-lee

The poem 'To a daughter leaving home' is about a mother helping her child to ride a bike but since the title of the poem is called 'To a Daughter Leaving Home', it could be symbolic for a mother trying to let go of her daughter.

how
it is

sp At the ^{beginning} of the poem, Pastan showed us that ~~she~~ ^{the girl} was eight years old when she started riding her bike. The writer ~~shows~~ represents the mother as a caring and ^{cautious} when she says 'loping along beside her' showing us that the mother was always by the daughter's side.

how
it is
inference

p Rhys Pastan When Pastan says 'I kept waiting for the thud of your crash' ^{it} gives off the feeling that the mother didn't want to let go and let her daughter go out into the world. ^{it} Almost as if she wanted to wrap her up in bubble wrap to be sure that nothing will happen to her. The writer also uses the word 'crash', an onomatopoeia, to add emphasis on her falling down which must be a big worry for the mother.

Subject term
+
explanation

When Pastan describes the girl as getting smaller, more breakable with distance, it shows us that when the mother sees her child grow, she knows that she can't protect her anymore when she is older so anything can happen to her and it must trigger some fear that she doesn't want anything bad to happen to her daughter.

At the end of the poem, Pastan uses the Simile 'Like a ~~handkerchief~~ handkerchief waving goodbye'. ~~that~~ That is a nice way to end the poem because it means the girl is leaving and the mother is finally accepting that she has to go. ✓

cc

www - Wow! What a lovely, thoughtful response Naoni - certainly not robotic/mechanical in your approach!

EBT - Develop (even further) use of subject terms for language and structure.