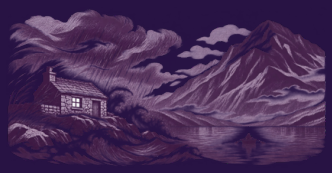
EXAM STASH

LOVE AND RELATIONSHIPS

WALKING AWAY

Cecil Day-Lewis



WHAT HAPPENS? A parent remembers a child's move towards independence.

BIG IDEA **A parent's love must make room for the child's independence, even when separation feels painful.**

FOUR EVIDENCE FRAGMENTS · ZOOM IN, THEN EXPLAIN

"satellite"

Simile

The child moves outward while remaining part of a relationship.

"wrenched"

Violent verb

A small separation is felt with disproportionate emotional force.

"half-fledged"

Bird imagery

The child's developing independence is real but incomplete.

"letting go"

Final principle

Love becomes an action that accepts separation rather than preventing it.

FORM

Four five-line stanzas with recurring ABACA rhyme; reflective first-person address looks back over eighteen years.

CONTEXT

Day-Lewis explores parenthood through a remembered school departure, connecting one small incident to continuing separation.

COMPARE IT WITH…

Mother, any distance: independence.
Follower: changing family roles.

VOICE, TONE & FEELINGS · FOLLOW THE SHIFTS

School memory

AFFECTIONATE AND WISTFUL

A child crossing a playing field becomes an image the parent cannot forget.

Images of release

ANXIOUS

Natural comparisons show independence as fragile, necessary growth.

Reflection

PAINFULLY ACCEPTING

The parent makes a distinction between loving someone and retaining control of them.

FULL POEM: use your anthology. Evidence fragments are prompts for close reading.

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