

Observatory Village

- Sectioning by seasons is effective, but repetitive.
 - The “I remember” structure is used almost uniformly throughout the piece. While it captures a nostalgic tone, it eventually loses impact and rhythm.
- Some memories are rich in detail while others are sparse or underdeveloped.
- Jumps between moments can be jarring.
 - Transitions between memories sometimes lack connective tissue, which creates a fragmented narrative.
- Consider trimming weaker “I remember” entries to focus on the most emotionally resonant ones. For example, “I remember being able to wear shorts again” could be integrated into a richer spring anecdote.

Sensory:

- Some scenes lack depth of description.
 - The visual and emotional potential of settings like the observatory, ditches, and snowy days is sometimes underused.
- Too much telling over showing. For example, the phrase “We swam in a galaxy” is striking but isn’t expanded upon.
- Expand key sensory details:
 - What did the cold water of the sun-fountain feel like in contrast to the summer heat?
 - What were the smells, sounds, and textures at the winter dinner table?

Condensings:

- Remove redundant seasonal statements. “I remember when the leaves started to turn...” and “I remember when the leaves started to fall...” could be merged or tightened.

Reflection:

- While rich in anecdote, there’s a missed opportunity for internal reflection. How did these moments shape the narrator’s understanding of growth, family, or self?
- Closing repetition feels unfinished. “I remember always foolishly saying I wanted to grow up” echoes the beginning but doesn’t show how or if that wish changed.