

Samuel Loomis
English 106
First Reading Table of Words
4/8/2014

Infant Sorrow

Line #	Word 1	Word 2	Reasoning
1	groaned	wept	The infant is picking up on the pain and sorrow of their parents.
2	dangerous	lept	The infant is leaping into a world of danger. What awaits?
3	helpless	naked	To be honest, that's half the words in this line, however, being helpless and naked provides a sense of extreme peril
4	fiend	hid	A hidden fiend? What were the infant's experiences before emerging? Was there a conscious that was forgotten at birth?
5	struggling	father's	Struggling adds to the feeling of peril and helplessness, and father's hands are extremely foreign, not the same touch or feel as the mother who carried the infant.
6	striving	bands	The infant is fighting to be free and yet is bound and unable to act on their own. More helpless sorrow feeling.
7	bound	weary	More helpless feeling.
8	sulk	mother's	The infant is finally accepting the unavoidable. With no power, they are left to inaction.

The Plain Sense of Things

Line #	Word 1	Word 2	Reasoning
1	fallen	leaves	Fallen leaves can stand for the end of life, or an age gone by. The reference sets up the poem as a feeling of loss and regret.
2	plain	sense	Plain sense speaks of perfect hindsight, what did all our actions actually mean?

Line #	Word 1	Word 2	Reasoning
3	end	imagination	The end of imagination seems to me as if its a great travesty. To loose the ower of imagination is to almost fall in to a deep pit of despar.
4	inert	savior	Inert savior leads one to think back on the hope of ones life, "everything for a reason", and feel utterly lost and betrayed.
5	difficult	choose	How does one accurately describe the loss of hope? Is there an adjective that can express the utter despair?
6	cold	sadness	Cold, helpless, sadness, despair.
7	great	minor	The idea of something so grand dwindling into minor nothingness... This guy was having a bad day.
8	turban	lessened	Same idea here, turbans was the greatness of royalty, dwindled into the lesser state of things.
9	badly	needed	More decay, more rundown images.
10	old	slants	Old decaying and falling apart. The image Stevens has is dim and almost desolate.
11	effort	failed	Really? Has life been so bad? Almost every line is saying the same thing, despair and desolation.
12	men	flies	Mens actions are as insignificant as flies.
13	absence	imagination	The absence of imagination is a dark thought.
14	imagined	great	The pond being great was imagined... Was it truly great?
15	sense	without	The sense of things looking back, is without granduer, without the reflections, the pond seems lifeless.
16	dirty	silence	Dirty silence just paints more of a descolate picture. Stevens was in a very dark place when he wrote this.
17	rat	see	What a rat sees, squalor and grime.
18	great	waste	Stevens uses grandor decaying into waste alot. A supposedly grand life that in reality was an illusion coating over the squalor of reality.

Line #	Word 1	Word 2	Reasoning
19	imagined	inevitable	The grand life was imagined, and inevitably it was revealed for the false it actually was.
20	necessity	requires	The view Stevens wrote about was a necessity to accurately capture the feeling of loss one likely experiences in the late stages of life

Those Winter Sundays

Line #	Word 1	Word 2	Reasoning
1	too	early	On Sundays, Hayden's father would wake up early, before the rest of the family. "Too" means that this was something he did every day, not just on Sunday.
2	blueblack	cold	Hayden's father was getting up in the uncomfortable cold, so that he could make the house warm for his family.
3	cracked	ached	His hands were cracked and ached from the week of hard labor, and yet he still thought of his family before his own comfort.
4	labor	weather	His hands were cracked and painful from the hard labor in the elements. The life he had set before him, likely was not chosen, however, he braved the elements and endured the labor to provide.
5	no	thanked	Hayden's father did this out of his sense of duty and protection for his family, no thanks were needed, and none were given.
6	wake	breaking	Hayden would wake in the morning and hear his father preparing the firewood, however, he did not get up to help.

Line #	Word 1	Word 2	Reasoning
7	warm	call	Hayden's father would wait till the house was warmed before getting people out of bed. He suffered through to provide comfort for his family.
8	slowly	rise	Even though another had prepared a warm house for him, Hayden would still rise slowly, likely begrudging being woken at all. Completely overlooking the kindness performed for him.
9	chronic	angers	The house Hayden grew up in seems to have been a disfunctional one, much like most families in the world. However, his father still provided a warm home for them to wake up in and worked to provide the shelter and food.
10	speaking	indifferently	The indifferent speech shows the lack of thought Hayden had in regards to his father's kindness. He just took it for granted.
11	driven	out	Hayden's father provided the warm house for Hayden to wake into.
12	as	well	On top of everything else, Hayden's father even polished Hayden's shoes for church. The thoughtfulness of his father was extensive.
13	what	know	Looking back on his childhood, Hayden is just now realizing what his father did for him. I imagine, he wishes to go back and offer his thanks, and appreciation.
14	lonely	offices	Love's lonely offices? Hayden's father loved Hayden, and likely didn't know how to express it but through his morning ritual and daily work. To be unable to see this as a child would make the home feel very much like a cold workplace.

Daddy

This section I am going to choose two words per stanza. I am assuming you don't want a 10 page report on the poem "Daddy."

Stanza #	Word 1	Word 2	Reasoning
1	shoe	lived	Plath's father is referred to as a "black shoe" in which she lived as a foot. He was her shield to the world she traveled in.
2	kill	before	Plath had some animosity to express toward her father, but he died before she could.
3	pray	recover	Plath misses her father, and prays for him to return to her.
4	flat	roller	War has flattened many people as if they were a giant steamroller and people had nowhere to run.
5	root	talk	The town where her father grew up was a common named town, and she couldn't find his family or even the experiences that made him the man he was, thus she had no way to talk to her lost father.
6	obscene	language	The German language reminded Plath of her father, and when she heard it, lots of regret would flood back to her, thus making the language an obscenity in her ears.
7	talk	think	Plath's loss of her father disoriented her and made her lose her heritage as well. Talking and thinking like a Jew at the time of World War II in Germany is to be among the most socially outcast set of people. She lost herself and felt helpless, like many of the Jews did in that time.
8	pure	true	Plath's motherly heritage was not pure or true.

Stanza #	Word 1	Word 2	Reasoning
9	always	scared	Plath has always been scared of the imposing figure of her father. The "pure" German, imposing and grand of stature. She was of mixed stock, and thus had no place in the new Germany.
10	boot	brute	The Nazi party of Germany was brutal.
11	cleft	devil	Plath's father likely had a prominent chin with cleft indentation, the devil would have cleft feet, however, she still felt as though that was what he was. There is much adoration and fear of her father.
12	ten	twenty	Plath's father died when she was 10, and she missed him so much that she tried to commit suicide at the age of 20.
13	together	model	Plath was rescued and recovered, and she made a model of her father to allow her to cope.
14	rack	do	The model Plath made was the man she married. She found someone just like him, and even though it was a torture, she married him.
15	vampire	drank	The man Plath married sucked the life out of her.
16	dancing	stamping	There is much rejoicing that she has broken free from her husband, and no longer under the sway of her father's influence.