

“Without Title”

Collection I 10th grade

Assignment with journal write

1. Read the poem through one time (play audio) and on the back write a 2-3 sentence summary of the poem.
2. Read the poem a second time (teacher read). This time look for the specific way language is used. Complete the corresponding page. Make sure you cite your evidence.
3. Look at the poem again and highlight words and phrases that appear to be deliberately repeated. After you highlight, create a vertical list of the words to the right of the poem. Why would an author repeat words and phrases? What can you learn from the list you have created? Use the repeated words and phrases to determine the poem's theme. Write a one sentence explanation of the theme.
4. What does the title mean? What is missing from the father's life that is his ceremony? Write your answer on the back and be sure to include evidence.
5. Journal write: Reread the poem and look for clues that indicate what is important to the father's Native American culture. What does the father do in his new life to recreate something of what he had lost? How do his actions relate to the subtitle? Support your response with evidence from the poem.

Without Title by Diane Glancy

For my Father who lived without ceremony

It's hard to know without the buffalo,
the shaman, the arrow,
but my father went out each day to hunt
as though he had them.
He worked in the stockyards.
All his life he brought us meat.
No one marked his first kill,
no one sang his buffalo song.
Without a vision he had migrated to the city
and went to work in the packing house.
When he brought home his horns and hides
my mother said get rid of them.

I remember the animal tracks of his car
out the drive in the snow and mud,
the aerial on his old car waving
like a bow string.
I remember the silence of his lost power,
the red buffalo painted on his chest.
Oh, I couldn't see it
but it was there, and in the night I heard
his buffalo grunts like a snore.