

MRS GAGANDEEP KAUR

POEM- I CANNOT REMEMBER MY MOTHER

REFERENCE TO CONTEXT

STANZA 1

I cannot remember my mother

Only sometime in the midst of my play

A tune seems to hover over my playthings,

the tune of some song that she used to

hum while rocking my cradle.

1. Name the poem.

Ans- I cannot remember my mother.

2. Why do you think that the poet does not remember his mother?

Ans- The poet does not remember his mother as probably he was just an infant when she died.

3. When would the poet's mother hum and for whom?

Ans- The poet's mother hummed a song for the poet while rocking his cradle to make him sleep.

STANZA 2

I cannot remember my mother

but when in the early autumn morning

the smell of the shiuli flowers floats in the air.

the scent of the morning service in the

temple comes to me as the scent of my mother

1. Which fragrance reminded the poet of his mother?

Ans- The fragrance of shiuli flowers reminded the poet of his mother.

2. What do you think the poet's mother did with the shiuli flowers?

Ans- The poet's mother used shiuli flowers to worship in the temple every morning.

STANZA 3

I cannot remember my mother

only when from my bedroom window

I send my eyes into the blue of the distant sky,

I feel that the stillness of my mother's gaze on

my face has spread all over the sky.

1. Where does the poet look from the window?

Ans- The poet looks at the distant blue sky from his bedroom window.

2. Explain what the poet tries to convey here in the above stanza?

Ans- In the above stanza, the poet recollects his mother's steady gaze and feels that it is reflected all over the still sky. He feels she is still watching over him.