

Date 1 / 31 PV Log: (circle one) Poem / Movie / Picture / LyricTitle Elderly Woman Looking at ToddlerAuthor / Director / Twitter (N/A)

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

I found this picture in my Twitter feed, as it was posted by the account "Fascinating Pictures" that I am following with the caption, "The circle of life."

Content / CD / Summary / Precis (Say? "Plot? Setting/Situation? Key lines/phrases scenes, etc?)

This picture depicts an elderly woman with a walker, smiling and gazing at a young toddler boy who is holding onto some sort of toy that also resembles a walker. Although the child's face can not be seen, it is implied that he is also staring back at the elderly woman, perhaps even smiling at her. The toy the little boy is holding seems to be some sort of fake lawn mower or simply just a board with various tangleable gadgets that the toddler can play with in order to keep him entertained. They are both dressed in warm clothing, implying that the time of year must be fall or winter, and the location of the picture seems to be on someone's property or at some park, as there are multiple sheds in the background.

Content / CM / Meaning? / Theme(s)?

The major theme of this picture is the brevity and succinctness of the cycle of life. One minute, a person is being born, while the next minute that same person's life is coming to an abrupt end. People often look back on their lives, sadly and regretfully, and they wonder where on earth all of their time and experiences went, contemplating on the possible mark that he or she may have left on society and the human race. Most of the time there isn't really anything significant or substantial to remember, and this makes people feel kind of unsettled by the fact that they could have done so much more with their time they had on earth. This picture urges people to make use of their time well and to go after their goals and ambitions as soon as they possibly can because life is too short to waste any time in trying to go after one's dreams. Life offers a multitude of possibilities and potentials for success, and, if people simply let them pass by, they will definitely regret their decisions in the future.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

The side by side comparison of a rather elderly, experienced, and wise woman and a young, innocent, and naive child shows the breadth and range of the human species in terms of their physical lives on earth. Having them both in the same vicinity also shows the cycle of life in a snapshot, and it is symbolic of the relatively fast paced change and transformation that continually occurs as a person progresses into the future.

Commentary (What do you want to say? Why like? Questions? Synthesis / Allusions-Connections / Relevance to personal experience, to literature, 20Q's? etc.)? "Poetic" Traits?

This picture, though simply of two humans, yields a greater meaning and significance than outwardly appears. The juxtaposition of the two humans who are on completely opposite ends of the spectrum shows two of the most beautiful, yet different and unique stages of human life. People enter the world oblivious to pain, problems, troubles ambiguity, and all of the complexities that make life such a struggle and such extremely hard work. As one loses his innocence, he is forced into a world of hatred and malevolence, causing him to become utterly disappointed with the human race as a whole. Finally, it is not until one reaches a particular threshold later in life when one finally possess the experience, skill, and wisdom to utilize his experience to the best of his abilities, as he has essentially learned the inner workings of life itself. This gradual change in progression is of course a generalization, but it can be seen in variety of sources such as in Margaret Atwood's poem "You Begin" as well as in T.H. White's *The Once and Future King*. Overall, the picture is quite poetic because it seems to strongly encourage living in the moment and taking advantage of life, particularly the young, innocent stage of life as a child as well as the old and wise stage of life as an elderly person. Because of the mindsets of people at these two distinct age ranges, these parts of life seem to offer an overwhelming amount and expansive range of opportunities, granting the most meaningful potential to the young and to the old. The young and the old should seek to explore, discover, change, and innovate before it is ultimately too late. Life is too short to wait.

over (do not mix logs; e.g., no poem log in front, and movie log on back)