

APPRECIATION OF THE POEM 'The First Showers.

The Indian poet Nalini Sharma goes eloquent on her experience of the first shower. On a hot summer day, fatigued well beyond words, the poet really longed for a first shower to enliven her otherwise dampened spirits. The day long heat has long robbed her energies. Weary lines have started to play first fiddle on her face. What she really most wished for was something that could make her body mind and soul cooled up. Returning back from her workplace after an exhausted day's committed works, she was enthralled to embrace the first showers to every inch of her. Each of her cell throbbed with vibrant energy. The marks of fatigue on her visage was easily cleaned up. Her parched face shone brightly with cool drops dancing on her face. The poet gaily recounts how the first rain has soothed her frayed nerves. Rain always carries along with it a nostalgia, to incite dead passions, to bring back the old dusted memories to life, to freshen up the dull spirits and to spread mirth. Nature always is a perennial source of comfort and solace for those who seek. Not only has the rain, energized the fatigued body and mind of the poet, it also made the flora look afresh. The poet has relied on an abundance of images and symbols, rendering the poem a unique charm of its own travellers who were fed up with the long and tiring journey, feel relieved of the dust and heat and welcome wholeheartedly the tantalizing fragrance of the earth just after the first rain. Their anxieties are put to rest and they feel mostly charged up. The poet is in all praise of the rain god. She wanted to be grateful to him who has bestowed on us this bountiful blessing. The trees on the roadside with leaves covered with dust remain famished all through the summer and wish for a drop of water to quench their thirst. They look polished in their newly washed green attire and sway their leaves in mirth, once they are blessed with the bounteous rain.

Rain is welcomed everywhere. The poet has also used expressions and poetic devices such as simile and metaphor, alliteration, and visual images to give us a vivid picture of nature glorified through rain. A fretted mind could turn to nature to find panacea for all his troubles. Nature is a store house of great wonders. The poem is no doubt a eulogy sung to rain. Wading through the muddy water, she hurriedly goes back home marvelling upon the bounteous rain getting all the more drenched in rain.

Explain the following expressions.

Weary lines: lines that are visible on the face because of extreme tiredness and excessive fatigue which makes one seem exhausted ..

Parched face. Parched face refers to the dry face that was exposed to the rough summer weather.

Frayed nerves: It means the poet has become completely messed up or totally ended up in chaos and confusing thoughts due to the excess works and extreme heat she suffered day long.

Pick out an example of simile from the poem.

Wet clothes clung to my body like an infant.

How does the rain ease out the travellers?

The travellers are weary since they travel in an uncomfortable weather. The summer heat is unbearable and they run out of energy soon. They black out easily. The rain soothes the weary travellers from the dust and heat and energises them with the fresh smell of the first shower.

How does nature enjoy the first shower?

The trees and the leaves stand in new glory and shine when they are showered with the first rain. They become fresh and enjoy each bit of the raindrops. They get back their lost glory.