



A

PHOTOGRAPH

By - Shirley Toulson

Author..



Shirley Toulson

Shirley Toulson, who lives in Somerset, was drawn into the spell of Celtic Christianity as she worked on her books dealing with the oldest roads and folklore of Britain and Ireland, and found herself following the routes taken on their journeys by the saints of the early church. Among her writings are: THE CELTIC ALTERNATIVE (1987) and THE CELTIC YEAR (1993).

Introduction

The poet remembers her mother who died about twelve years ago. There is a photograph taken when her mother had gone for a sea holiday with her cousins and her uncle. Looking at the photograph, she experiences the great loss of her mother. The poem basically talks about how death can silence you and leave you speechless.



Summary of the poem..

In the introductory lines, The poet looks at the photograph of her mother, which was taken when her mother was 12 years old. She had gone for a sea holiday with her cousins Betty and Dolly and while they were paddling, her uncle took a photograph of them.



Summary of the poem..

Each of the cousins was holding the hands of the poet's mother who was the eldest among them. All the three of them stood smiling through their hair while the photo was taken. Her mother had a sweet face. All these happened before she was born.



Summary of the poem..

*The waves washed
their feet... as it
stood still..Years
fled past since then.
Her mother grew up
into an adult. They
all underwent
changes while the
sea stood still.*



Summary of the poem..



After about twenty or thirty years the poet's mother would look at the photograph laughing nostalgically and remembering the past. She would appreciate the dress worn by her cousins Betty and Dolly. The sea holiday belonged to the past of her mother and the poet still remembers how her mother would laugh looking at the snap shot.

Summary of the poem..



But now as destined by fate... the mother has been dead for the past few years. Out of all these circumstances, there is nothing else left to say. The matter is closed and silence has sealed its fate.



Thankyou!!

MADE BY:

Shivansh J.
11-D