A PORTABLE PARADISE

Roger Robinson



WHAT HAPPENS? Advice from a grandmother becomes a method of carrying and recovering an inner refuge.

BIG IDEA **A remembered place can be carried as a private source of strength and deliberately revisited under pressure.**

FOUR EVIDENCE FRAGMENTS · ZOOM IN, THEN EXPLAIN

“concealed”

Adjective

The refuge remains private and protected from external interference.

“ridges”

Tactile imagery

An imagined paradise becomes something the hand can trace.

“anthem”

Auditory imagery

A personal refuge acquires the emotional force of a homeland.

“lamp”

Symbolism

Deliberate illumination makes the preserved inner world available again.

FORM

Four stanzas of free verse; repeated conditional openings turn inherited advice into a practical sequence.

CONTEXT

Robinson draws on a grandmother’s advice and a portable sense of Caribbean belonging, while leaving room for different personal refuges.

COMPARE IT WITH…

Homing: inheritance as strength. Name Journeys: carrying cultural identity into unfamiliar spaces.

VOICE, TONE & FEELINGS · FOLLOW THE SHIFTS

Grandmother’s instruction

PROTECTIVE

A valued place becomes an intimate possession that others need not recognise.

Pressure

RESOURCEFUL

Touch, smell and sound give the imagined refuge sensory immediacy.

Sustained stress

QUIETLY HOPEFUL

The advice changes from carrying a hidden comfort to making space to attend to it fully.

FULL POEM: use your anthology. Evidence fragments are prompts for close reading.

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