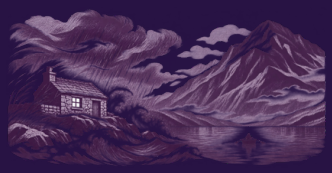
# KAMIKAZE

Beatrice Garland



**WHAT HAPPENS?** A daughter recounts a pilot's return and the family's subsequent rejection of him.

**BIG IDEA** **A decision to survive can lead to social exclusion so severe that ordinary ideas of life and death become unstable.**

## FOUR EVIDENCE FRAGMENTS · ZOOM IN, THEN EXPLAIN

### "one-way"

**Fatalistic adjective**

The mission's intended endpoint is embedded in its preparation.

### "incantations"

**Ritual diction**

Patriotic teaching acquires the repetitive force of a spell.

### "green-blue translucent sea"

**Sensory imagery**

The living world offers a vivid alternative to the mission.

### "which"

**Interrogative word**

The ending leaves the relative costs of different deaths unresolved.

### FORM

Seven six-line stanzas; a daughter's account incorporates imagined memories and uncertainty about the pilot's mind.

### CONTEXT

Kamikaze missions were Japanese suicide attacks in the Second World War. The poem examines the family cost of expectations of honour.

### COMPARE IT WITH…

Poppies: family and conflict. The Emigrée: belonging and exclusion.

## VOICE, TONE & FEELINGS · FOLLOW THE SHIFTS

**Departure**

**CEREMONIAL AND EXPECTANT**

Preparations establish a mission shaped by national duty and anticipated death.

**Sea and childhood**

**SENSUOUS AND SPECULATIVE**

The daughter imagines what natural beauty and remembered family life might have awakened.

**Return and rejection**

**COLD AND MOURNFUL**

Physical survival is followed by a loss of recognition within the family.

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

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