NAME JOURNEYS

Raman Mundair



WHAT HAPPENS? A speaker connects a name and language to migration, cultural stories and misrecognition.

BIG IDEA **The journey of a name exposes a struggle to keep cultural history audible within an environment that mishears it.**

FOUR EVIDENCE FRAGMENTS · ZOOM IN, THEN EXPLAIN

“wilderness”

Cultural allusion

An epic landscape supplies a language for displacement.

“silk”

Textile imagery

Cultural and personal journeys are imagined as interwoven rather than isolated.

“milk teeth”

Bodily metaphor

Language loss is linked to a vulnerable phase of growing up.

“echo chamber”

Metaphor

An apparently receptive language-space instead repeats its own assumptions.

FORM

Free verse arranged in couplets; enjambment links cultural allusion, migration and the physical effort of speech.

CONTEXT

Mundair brings South Asian epic references into an English-language poem, requiring the reader to encounter an inherited cultural world.

COMPARE IT WITH…

Homing: language and identity. pot: displacement and the demand to recover history.

VOICE, TONE & FEELINGS · FOLLOW THE SHIFTS

Epic identities

SEARCHING AND INTIMATE

Connections to Rama and Sita frame personal experience through existing cultural stories.

Journey and changed speech

STRAINED

Migration becomes audible through the body’s effort to accommodate new sounds.

English reception

FRUSTRATED

Other people’s difficulties with the name become a wider failure to recognise its history.

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

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