

Task for *Ruby Moonlight*

Tension graph indicating fear

fear

noun

an unpleasant emotion caused by the threat of danger, pain, or harm

Verb

be afraid of (someone or something) as likely to be dangerous, painful or harmful

Tension is low in Nature and Harmony. The leaves are falling to the ground. The shape of the poem, Nature, adds to the freedom that we feel. In Harmony the tribe is going about its normal day to day business. Words like warm, delight, admire, love, joy, help to reinforce the happiness.

Tension is high in Warning as they meet to discuss what to do. Chatter is warbled with worry. The stanzas get shorter. Tension erupts at the end resulting in Ambush.

“The chatter warbled with worry” still says the fear is present and strong. But they must trust their tribal ways, it is the only way for them to try and stop the fear and fright.

Tension erupts in Ambush. The simple and repetitive words “hack ... hands, heads, hearts, the clan slaughtered, dying, ... dead.” The use of alliteration and the shape of the poem with one word on each line helps build the tension.

Fear builds the tension. While in Nature and Harmony it is lacking tension, and therefore seems to be lacking fear, we can see there is fear “he can see the women hurrying back from the hidden pathway”.

Tension slowly comes back down. While it is still tense, in Silence the young women sit so still that we feel almost nothing; however, there is still unease. The stanzas end with two sentences justified in the middle. The final two lines are referring back to the grief.

After the death, while the girl sits like a rock, there is no fear. She is unable to fear or feel.

