

## CROW COUNTRY

### ANNOTATED EXTRACT 2 (PP. 52–53)

<p>For an instant, Sadie thought that the night itself had come into the kitchen, <u>breathing</u> its chill <u>breath</u> (1) over them all; she blinked and saw the <u>black-feathered bird-figure</u> (2) from her nightmare. And then she relaxed back into her chair and <u>laughed</u> at herself, because it was <u>only Jimmy Raven</u>, (3) the Mortlocks' stockman, who she'd known all her life. <u>Jimmy was her friend</u>, certainly no one to be frightened of (4).</p>	<p>(1) Polyptoton (repetition of words derived from the same root) emphasises a trope of thrillers (i.e. deep or heavy breathing) to add atmosphere and evoke sensorial detail</p>
<p>... he just <u>grinned</u> a little and sat down – <u>too big</u> for the frail chair, <u>too big</u> for the small kitchen (5) – and laid his hat on the table.</p>	<p>(2) Hyphenated adjectives enhance the comparison between Jimmy (significantly named 'Raven') and the crow; they compress detail and use metaphor to hint at who Jimmy may be</p>
<p>In her dreamy, detached state, Sadie was aware of everyone's thoughts, even though they didn't speak a word. She saw Mum and Dad exchange a glance and knew they were wondering what Jimmy had come for; he'd never come calling after dark before. And she knew, watching Jimmy as he <u>clasped and unclasped his big, calloused hands, his eyes cast down</u>, that he wanted to talk over something important but didn't know how to begin. (6)</p>	<p>(3) Word choice foreshadows Jimmy's vulnerability and recalls Sadie's visits by the crows</p>
	<p>(4) Third-person omniscient point of view gives insight into Sadie's view of Jimmy; makes her involvement in the crime even more upsetting for her</p>
	<p>(5) Verb choice suggests a genuine and delightful warmth; parenthetical phrasing uses anaphora to emphasise Jimmy's strength and the sense that he is out of place in the Hazzards' home</p>
	<p>(6) Vivid descriptions establish Jimmy's hard work ethic, the slight awkwardness of the situation and Jimmy's angst</p>