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Johnny Got His Gun

In Dalton Trumbo's passage from *Johnny Got His Gun*, Trumbo effectively presents a loving father and sons relationship. Throughout the passage, Trumbo shows readers the events of a boy growing up and deciding to go on a fishing trip with his friend instead of his father. The readers can imply that when a child grows up, there will be a point in life where you will have to let them go.

In Trumbo's passage, Trumbo introduces a conflict where Joe wants to go with his friend instead of his father on a fishing trip, the readers get a sense that the father will not like his son's decision of letting him go on his own. At first Joe's father doesn't "say a thing" when Joe finally gets the courage to ask his father if he can go with his friend. After sometime though, Joe's father asks if "Bill Harper got a rod". Although Joe says "no", his father offers him his own prized possession rod that is an "extravagance". Through Trumbo's characterization of Bill Harper, the reader's notice that there is a hard point in life where you have to trust your son/daughter and allow them to go off on their own.

Trumbo also effectively shows this through his powerful imagery. The images Trumbo paints in readers' heads allows readers to get a clear sense of the son's relationship with his father and the details of the fun times they've had together. For example, when Trumbo wrote "the roar of water from the streams...sounded in their ears all night" the reader gets the sense that Joe can remember these specific enjoyable moments with his father. It is clear to the readers that the

father and son have a good connection and that's why it is hard for Joe to ask his father if he can go with his friend instead.

Dalton Trumbo's *Johnny Got His Gun* clearly shows an accurate representation of a child growing up to be a teenager. It can be hard to let a child go but there are those points when you'll have to let them go some point in life. Between Joe and his father, Trumbo gives the audience a real sense of the heartbreak that a parent can feel when their child is becoming more mature.