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Growing up Just Like You

My first sight of you

Was those delicate brown eyes.

Crying in your arms,

I wonder what is this new place

I shall call home.

Falling into an immersed sleep,

All I hear is a humming

Of a soft whispered lullaby.

Now as I grow,

Learning from you and dad,

I now know how to tie my shoes

With the help of your rhyme;

Over, under, around and through,

Meet Mr. Bunny Rabbit, pull and through.

Teaching me everyday

With your love and discipline,

You taught me what is wrong...

And what is right;

For all I know, you just might be alright.

You may get mad

When I get into your things,

But one thing for sure is

You still love me,

Even though I can be troubling.

Now a tall rebellious young blonde,

You may wonder where time has gone.

I'll always be your little girl

Waiting for time to slow.

As I start to plan for the future,

You help me decide

My path of where to go.

It may be hard to see me grow,

But that's what time does to everyone.

As I experience life

And all I have grown up for,

I learn what is most important in the world;

Always keep your friends and family close.

Today with one strand of gray

From the stress of my own kids,
I see a familiar face that reminds
Me of the good ol' days.
With **you** growing older every day,
I begin to miss the life we used to know.

Without you now,
I begin to miss you
And your sweet chocolate brown eyes.
Now with kids and grandkids of my own,
I see time taking its toll on me;
Becoming grayer every day.
I now begin to wonder myself, where has time gone?

Reflection

My poem "Growing up Just Like You" takes on a special perspective of a child's view of her mother. I chose the five important stages of growing up to show how fast time can go by. I also showed how important it is to enjoy your time with your friends and family because one day their time will be up.

The first stanza was based on a newborn baby girl who sees her mother's eyes for the first time. I tried to show the bond between a mother and her child when I wrote about the mother singing a lullaby to her newborn. This bond shows that there is a connection that allows them to trust and love each other forever. Also by using the words "soft" (8) and "delicate" (2) within the stanza, I showed how innocent the little child is and how important this bond between both the mother and child can be at such an age, in order to allow the newborn to feel safe and at home.

The second stanza showed how a toddler can learn from her mother and how the importance of learning can teach a child what life will be like. By using the rhyme "Over, under, around and through, Meet Mr. Bunny Rabbit, pull and through" (13-14), I portrayed the idea of how a child can learn easier with the help of rhymes. I also brought up how even though a toddler can get into a lot of trouble, that the mother and father will always love their child no matter what. This shows the love and connection between a child and their parents, which is very important when you're trying to teach a kid.

The next stanza was about how a teenager has more decisions and how time seems as if it has gone faster. In the first line I used the words "tall rebellious young"

(25) to show how a teen can be. I thought “Rebellious” (25) was a good word to describe a teen because teenagers want to be able to do whatever they want, and will try to do it, even if they’re told they can’t. Also in this stanza, you might notice how there is still a strong bond between the mother and daughter because I wanted to write about how a mother helps her daughter figure out what she wants to do in her life. You might even notice a small tone shift because I make the realization of growing up more noticeable. When a teenager graduates from high school I think that is the biggest realization of how fast time can fly by for a mother.

The fourth stanza was a big turning point because you notice that the daughter is now a mother and has more responsibilities in her life. I showed these new responsibilities by talking about what is most important in life, which is to “Always keep your friends and family close” (37). By keeping your friends and family close you try to stay connected to them and are responsible for that connection. In this stanza I also used imagery to show the reader that the daughter is now a mother by using the line “Today with one strand of gray” (38). Using this line I thought it showed the stress of a new mother and how time passes, in terms of colors. The line “I see a familiar face that reminds Me of the good ol’ days” (40-41) can even show the passing of time. By bolding the word “you” in the line “With you growing older every day” I tried to show the importance of the mother now getting older instead of the daughter. I thought this stanza showed how important life really is and how a transformation of a child to a mother can be really interesting.

In the last stanza I showed the emotional side of life to conclude my poem. By bringing up the color of the mom's eyes again, I showed how life can evolve from beginning (where the newborn looked into the mother's eyes for the first time) to end (where the daughter misses looking into her now dead mother's eyes). The line "Becoming grayer everyday" was a really sad line I added because thinking of the color gray makes you think of gloomy and depressing. Losing someone can also feel that way and could feel like that when you are in your elderly stage. In my last line I brought up "where has time gone" again (50) because I wanted to show how fast time can really be and how now the daughter wonders this.

In my apostrophe hand poem I covered the five stages of life and how fast life can be. I used many thoughtful descriptions and literary devices to show the reader these stages. I believe that time is important and you should make the best of it. Hopefully the reader can understand that you need to enjoy every second of your life.