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English Composition II

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“I Asked My Mother to Sing” by Li-Young Lee

At this stage, I am interest in pursuing this thesis statement: In the poem “I Ask My Mother to Sing”, Li-Young Lee uses descriptive words and figurative language to illustrate her mother’s singing as remorse of the country they left and never returned to. The poem also goes in details and inform the readers that if love ones were still living they would join the mother’s singing with instruments. I like this poem because it reminds me of how my culture singing keeps a remembrance of ours love ones, that’s decease, alive spiritually. Also, the poem reminded me of how people remorse over thing they lost and never regain.

I plan to go more in details about the symbolization of the word remorse and give the definition. I also plan to research the reason Lee’s family left their country. However, this poem can be difficult to read because it states places in China that we are not familiar with. I plan to discuss the places Li-Young Lee mentioned in the poem. I read some of Li-Young Lee background online and it state that he was in Indonesia to Chinese parents. His family later fled to United States therefore leaving Lee to never experience China.

The mood in the poem changes throughout the reading. I will analyze and discuss the changes in my essay. Instead of figurative language being view as an ensemble, I will talk about each symbolism and give it a meaning. I don’t want my paper to be unorganized or confusing. I plan to stay on topic and not be too broad.