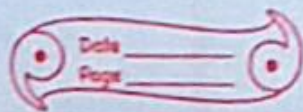


Ch-6
The Peacock



A. Answer the following :-

1. What is the 'flash of turquoise' in the figal tree? Why is it described so?

Ans. The 'flash of turquoise' in the figal is the peacock. It is described because the speaker catches a glimpse of the radiant bluish-green neck of the peacock behind the figal tree.

2. What does it mean to 'live inside the book'?

Ans. To live inside the book means to concentrate on reading the book and get totally absorbed in it and forget your surroundings.

3. According to the speaker, what do you have to do to observe the peacock?

Ans. According to the speaker, you have to sit in the veranda and read your favourite book with concentration and become fully engrossed in it for the peacock to visit you. In other words, you must ignore the peacock and not look out for it, and then you can spot it easily.

4. How do the cat, wind and bees tell the speaker that the peacock has arrived?

Ans. The wind changes direction, the bees stop humming and the cat awakens and stretches to signal the arrival of the peacock.

B. Think and Answer.

1. The speaker tells us that it is very difficult to catch a glimpse of the peacock. How does she convey this to us?

Ans. The poem begins with a sense of mystery: the peacock seems to appear on the scene from ~~no~~ 'nowhere': but even before it is properly glimpsed, it disappears. Before this fleeting vision, the peacock is heard, a call that announces its presence, a call that is "loud" and distinctive. The speaker says it is likely to see the peacock when the person is seated with a book engrossed in reading it with deep 'concentration'. By the time the person engrossed in reading lifts his eyes to sense the presence of the peacock, only a passing glimpse of the vision can he had.

A2. a) The violet and golden amber eyes are the designs on the ~~go~~ peacock's tail. The speaker says that these eyes are always open because there are no eyelids on these 'eyes' for them to close and it always seems like many eyes are watching us.

b. The shaking of the feathers is compared to the blinking of eyes as the eyes on the feathers are not blink any other way but by the shaking of the feathers. These eyes seem to blink when it does so.

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