

hw
17/5/21

The Song of the Whale

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B 1. Why is the poem titled 'The Song of the Whale'?

→ The poem is titled as 'The Song of the Whale' because the poem is about the grief of the whale on losing its family.

2. Who is the speaker addressing in the poem? Why does he do that?

→ The speaker is addressing the sad whale in the poem to tell the cruelty and selfishness of human beings towards these innocent animals.

3. What feelings does the speaker wish to convey in the poem? Sadness? Anger? Disgust?
Support ~~Suggest~~ your answer with lines from the poem.

→ The speaker wants to convey his sadness, anger and disgust.

He expresses his sadness in the line,

"Great Whale, crying for your life,
crying for your kind, I knew, how
we would use your dying."

He expresses his anger and disgust
in the line, "We would make you
dumb, In the forest of the sea, Whale
I heard you singing." because he
knows that the hunters will kill
the whales as soon as they hear
their singing.

4. Does the speaker think there is still a hope
yet for the whales? How do we know?

→ No, the speaker does not think that there
is a hope yet for whale through
the following lines.

"Singing to your kind,
We'll never let you be
Instead of life we choose"

"lipsticks for our painted faces,
Polish for our shoes."

This line means that we will not let you sing with your kith and kin because we choose lipsticks and shoe polish for ~~us~~ ourselves instead of your ~~liv~~ life.