



Human emotions are represented everyday through texts. Emotions are what make us human. Love, hate, happiness, sadness, jealousy etc, all make us act out.

When representing an emotion it is important to put it in a setting where it can easily be related to by the interpreter.

Queen Harwood, a 20th century Australian living most her life in Tasmania, chose to represent her ideas and emotions through poetry. Throughout her life (she sadly passed away in 1995) she wrote six books of poems and published many other works.

In her poems there are constant themes of confusion, love and father issues. But one of the most interesting human emotions is fear. It is interesting



because everybody fears different things. Although this may be the case ~~use~~ fact is important; we all fear something. Fear is what drives us in many aspects of life.

Whilst Harwood often references fear, it is not completely understood what it is she fears.

In her poem 'The Glass Jar' it is plain to see darkness is a fear represented through a young child. Innocence is lost as a child's failed attempt to capture light in a jar turns his night into a frightful experience. As she often does Harwood uses nature as a metaphor in this poem. She also places creatures under his bed and also creates a repetition issue with the mother ignoring the child whilst apparently engaged in the act of sexual intercourse.

Although fear is used there is



another religious reference with Hamood stating "All the suns disciples" poured into the jar.

There is also a death reference with the boys dream. In the dream he is dancing with skeletons whilst his father plays an instrument. It is unsure whether the father is dead so ~~we~~ we must choose. The poem ends with the sun mocking the boy who has lost his innocence due to fear.

Fear is also well represented in father and child. In the first part, the child's innocence is lost when she shoots the owl in the barn. Due to her stealing her fathers gun we again have parental issues. Once shot, the owl bleeds and the child's innocence is lost when she sees what she has done. Fear ensues in the child and she begins to cry.



The arrival of her father further increases the fear factor, and when the father tells her to "finish the job" she is stricken with fear. The death of the aunt represents loss of innocence.

Even though none of her poems have a defining rhyming scheme ~~or~~ they still have one, and her techniques include constant repetition and references to religion, death and innocence and her poetic style is a great representation of human emotions.