

Flowers Example

The short story *Flowers* written by Robert Jenkins deals with the theme of innocence. In the short story Margaret the main character has been taken away from home to be safe from bombs when, she then goes out to pick flowers but instead breaks a promise and visits a lake where she finds two dead airmen and this is the point where she loses her innocence.

At the start of the poem Margaret is portrayed as a naïve child. This is shown with this quote “she didn’t want to be safe from bombs”. This shows that she does not understand what bombs do and what effects they have on people. This shows that she is an innocent child who does not understand yet.

Margaret is then portrayed as a horrible child when she attacks the snake. “Furiously she throws a rock at it”. It shows that she was angered and instead of walking by she attacked the snake with no provocation. After this she starts to become back to the innocent character as she notices her, and the snake are alike. This is shown with this quote “She was amazed she didn’t think a snake would have red blood in it”. This again shows the naivety of her and that she has not learnt enough yet to tell that all life is alike. This shows that whilst an innocent person can do bad they can still retain their innocence.

After this Margaret is shown to have changed and instead of attacking things she instead is intrigued by them. This is shown with this quote “She thinks about trampling the flower but she finds herself noticing that she and the flower are alike, so she picks it”. This shows that she has reverted her old ways and whilst she thought about them she has now realized that other things in this world are not evil they are just different.

Margaret is now shown as this innocent character after she changed her old ways but she then loses her childhood innocence. This is shown with this quote “She crushes the flower leaving a green and black mess”. This shows that her childhood is destroyed as she had previously related to the flower and now it is gone. This shows that she has lost her innocence and therefore understands the effects of bombs.

In conclusion the short story shows that even though someone may have made mistakes they can still redeem themselves and that even though someone may have broken rules they can still be innocent and therefore we should sympathize with everyone when something bad has happened to them.