

Sybil Stockdale

SEE # 15
Electric Sheet

(Sorrow)

FIRST SORROW

I could see the lumpy shape near the bushes beside the road.
"There he is," Jimmy screamed. "Stop, Stop."

He was out of the door in a flash and running toward that silent shape.

"Brownie, Brownie," he cried. "Brownie, Brownie."

But the big brown dog didn't move. Jimmy reached out to touch him but drew his hand back quickly. I let my hand sink into the soft, familiar brown fur. There was only coldness and stiffness underneath. Tears washed into my eyes. I kept swallowing, trying to keep myself under control. I held Jimmy tightly as his sobs shook his body. I could still smell the peanut butter from his sandwich.

don't you mean repetition?

3

SEE # 5
Electric Sheet

You gave "I" as MC in first sentence - what did "I" refer to? Perhaps the smell of peanut butter awakes the taste buds though I guess you'd let that be.
Poor, poor little boy. This was his first taste of sorrow.

~~I could hear~~ my heart whispering in the twilight, please God, make him strong.

(this symbolic "hearing" is good - but not as a sensory appeal)

PURE JOY *However, "I" heard the boy speak - so you do have "hear" (Joy)*

Our oldest son is twenty-one today. How I love remembering that December day when he was born. Whenever I want to feel joy, pure joy, I have only to think back and that same sweet feeling is there inside me.

I can see Jim coming into my room on that cold afternoon. Our beautiful baby had been born at dawn so Jim had had a chance to spread the news, shave, and buy an armload of gifts. He smelled like shaving lotion and red roses all mixed together when he kissed me. He tasted cold and crisp from the December air. The rough tweed of his jacket felt strange after the soft touch of baby's blanket.

five!

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Basic
January 15, 1972

PURE JOY (CONTINUED)

His breath was warm in my ear as he whispered "I love you."

The joy of it all was such a surprise. No one had told me about this part...this pure, pure joy.

*It's
beautiful - so
just*

Very beautiful!

You've done very well this week. There

*are a few minor troubles with "sorrow,"
but it still ~~and~~ make the rule. Study my
connections carefully.*