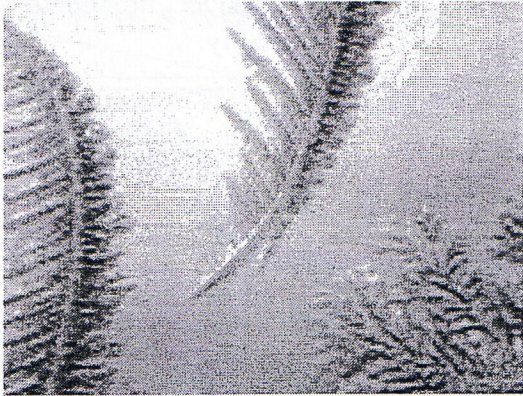


The Warm and the Cold by Ted Hughes



THEME: THAT NATURE ENJOYS AND/OR FITS INTO LIFE MUCH MORE COMFORTABLY THAN HUMANS. EVEN IN COLD WINTRY NIGHT CONDITIONS. An important/interesting theme/idea because humans should learn to be more grateful and appreciative of their lives and what they have.

Freezing dusk is closing

Like a slow trap of steel

Ted Hughes is using **simile** [like] to depict [show] the end of the day as being really cold as it hits the trees and roads and hills. He compares the freezing dusk [end of the day] to a steel animal trap. The movement of the trap is slow rather than fast, because the dusk happens gradually.

On trees and roads and hills and all

That can no longer feel.

They can't feel because they are frozen.

But the carp is in its depth

Like a planet in its heaven.

The carp is a fish. Its 'depth' is the pond water. Hughes uses **simile** to compare the way the carp hangs in the space of the pond-water, to the way a planet hangs out in space. This is to show that the carp is quite at home in its dark, cold, watery home – even in winter time.

