

There Will Come Soft Rains

Theme:-

1. Ray Bradbury's story is a chilling tale of a post-apocalyptic world in which no humans remain.
2. "There Will Come Soft Rains" takes up a common course of the mid-twentieth century. As technology advanced at a rapid pace, particularly following the development of the atomic bomb in the 1940s, a fear of robots taking the place of humans developed.
3. Another theme in the story is that machines can serve as both help and a hindrance. The machines inside the house are clearly of great benefit as they zoom around cleaning the ^{house}.
4. Yet a nuclear event has apparently resulted in the destruction of all human life. For every advance in technology, some harms to result.
5. Nature, however, goes about its everybody business: the sun continues to rise and set, the sun shines, and the soft rains ^{come}.

ERC:-

1. "Since you express no preference, I shall select a poem at random."
 - a) Whom does "I" refer to?
ans. "I" refers to the AI controlling the house.
 - b) Who is ^{the} addressee in the above line?
ans. The ~~a~~ addressee is Mrs. McClellan.

2. Delicately sensing de

c) Why isn't there any preference expressed?

ans. There was no response and no preference was expressed as Mrs. McCellen was dead.

d) Which poem does the speaker select?

ans. The speaker selects the poem "There Will Come Soft Rains".

e) Why does the speaker select a particular poem?

ans. Since there was no response the AI selected ~~as poem~~ ^{Mrs. McCellen's} favorite poem, "There Will Come Soft Rains" by Sara Teasdale.

2. Delicately sensing decay at last, the regiments of mice hummed out as softly as ~~the~~ blown grey leaves in electrical wind.

a) What did the mice sense?

ans. The mice sensed decay from the dead dog.

b) Why does the author use the term "regiments" ^{for} ~~from~~ the mice?

ans. The poet compares them to regiments as they came in large groups like the soldiers.

c) What is the action of the mice compared to?

ans. The action of the mice being compared to grey leaves being blown in electrical wind.

III Answer the following:-

1. Justify the title "There Will Come Soft Rains".

ans. Ray Bradbury's science fiction story shares the title of the poem by Sara Teasdale. The title refers to the passage of time and predicts what is to come in future. There is hope and optimism hidden in the title indicating the cycle of life. Both the story and the poem are based on the same theme that concerns man versus nature and how nature would carry on whether the humans were around or not. It is the favorite poem of the women of the house. Also at the end of the ^{story} ~~poem~~ "soft rains" come to extinguish the flames that have destroyed the house.

2. How did the dog react when it entered the house?

ans. The dog was sick and covered with sores due to the nuclear radiation. The searches for its family hysterically yelping and realizes that no one is home. It smells some pancakes being cooked in the kitchen and tried to open the door trying hoping to eat some. It layed there, became insane due to the radiation, running wildly in circles, biting its tail and died.

3. Based on the story's detail about the city, what do you think happened? Why was the west face of the house black? How did the silhouettes get there?

ans. The house died as it couldn't survive ^{alone} all around nature, so the control panel exploited leaving the west face of the house black.