

GIST:

- The poet is driving from her parents home to Cochin by car, her mother by her side—sleeping – open mouthed very pale, colorless and frail-like a dead body indicating that her end was near.
- The poet looks at her and feels intense pain and agony to realize that soon death will cast her mother from her.
- Tries to divert her mind, looks outside at the young trees and happy children bursting out of their homes in a playful mood (a contrasting image)
- After the security check at the airport looked again at her mother's face—pale and cold.
- “Familiar ache-My childhood fear” –the poet has always had a very intimate and close relationship with her mother and she has always felt the fear of being separated from her mother hence it is familiar.
- The poet reassures her mother that they will meet again.