

Climax:

A few days later, as the boys were about to take the horse to the deserted vineyard, where they kept it they run into John Byro.

Falling Action:

Byro observed that the horse resembles his lost one—even examines the teeth to be the same. It is only for the honest reputation of their family that Byro gave the boys a chance as he said otherwise he would think the boys had stolen his horse. He remarks that “a suspicious man would believe his eyes instead of his heart” and went on his way.

Anticlimax:

The boys realized the consequences of their actions and bade farewell to the horse and returned it to Byro’s barn early the next morning. That afternoon, Byro brought the horse to Aram’s house, claiming that it was “stronger than ever” and “better-tempered” than before.

The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse

by

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Rising Action:

John Byro, a farmer who lived 10 miles away, visits Aram’s house and mentions that his horse was stolen a month ago is still missing. Aram confronts Mourad. He wants Mourad to promise that the horse won’t be returned until he can learn how to ride.

Beginning:

Mourad steals a horse and as he is aware of Aram’s love for horses brings it to him. He attempts to teach Aram to ride it. The two boys have fun with it and keeps it a secret.

Background/ Setting:

The story is set against the backdrop of an Armenian Gharoglanian tribe settled in the San Joaquin Valley in California. Even though they are impoverished, they are still known for their honesty. The two young boys’ love for horses prompt them to steal a horse to ride and have fun with it.

Characters:

There are four characters:

- Aram: The narrator; A nine-year-old Armenian boy residing in USA
- Mourad: Aram’s cousin; thirteen years old; adventurous and free spirited
- Uncle Khusrove: Aram’s homesick uncle
- John Byro: A local farmer
- Horse: Byro’s horse

Themes:

- Honesty and honour of a tribe
- The zeal to live up to one’s/ family’s reputation even in the face of challenges like poverty
- Inevitability of change that challenges traditions and long-established beliefs
- Redemption through one’s actions
- Generosity can solve most disputes
- Conflict between the urge to have fun and that of living up to the expectations of others