

My father loved all instruments that would instruct and fascinate. His place to keep things was the drawer in the 'library table' where lying on top of his folder map was a telescope with brass extensions, to find the moon and the Big Dipper after supper in our front yard, and to keep appointments with eclipses. In the back of the drawer you could find a magnifying glass, a kaleidoscope and a gyroscope kept in black buckram box, which he would set dancing for us on a string pulled tight. He had also supplied himself with an assortment of puzzles composed of metal rings and intersecting links and keys chained together, impossible for the rest of us, however, patiently shown, to take apart, he had an almost childlike love of the ingenious. In time, a barometer was added to our dining room wall, but we didn't really need it. My father had the country boy's accurate knowledge of the weather and its skies. He went out and stood on our front steps first thing in the morning and took a good look at it and a sniff. He was a pretty good weather prophet. He told us children what to do if we were lost in a strange country. 'Look for where the sky is brightest along the horizon,' he said. 'That reflects the nearest river. Strike out for a river and you will find habitation'. Eventualities were much on his mind. In his care for us children he cautioned us to take measures against such things as being struck by lightning. He drew us all away from the windows during the severe electrical storms that are common where we live. My mother stood apart, scoffing at caution as a character failing. So I developed a strong meteorological sensibility. In years ahead when I wrote stories, atmosphere took its influential role from the start. Commotion in the weather and the inner feelings aroused by such a hovering disturbance emerged connected in dramatic form.

Questions

a. why did the writer's father spend time studying the skies ?

The father of the writer spent his time studying the skies. In fact, he liked studying the skies. For that matter, he had instruments. In short, to study skies was the passion of the father of the writer.

b. why the writer thinks that there was no need of a barometer?

The writer is of the view that there was no need of a barometer. According to him, her father had enough instruments for his activities. He could do his work without a barometer. In sum, writer did not like a barometer because she thinks that was not needed at all.

c. what does the bright horizon meant for the writer's father ?

The father of the writer gave too much importance to the bright horizon. He thought that the bright horizon helps people in their difficulties. It makes them know about the river. Through it, people can find habitation in a strange land. In a nutshell, the writer of the author found the bright horizon very useful.

d. How did her father influence the writer in her later years ?

The father of the writer influenced her very much in her later years. The reason is that she had a meteorological sensibility. While writing stories, she took great help from environment. Sounds in weather and her inner feelings gathered in a dramatic form. Given this, it can be said with a fair degree of certainty that the writer of this passage was immensely influenced by her father.