A PHOTOGRAPH

Shriley Toulson’s poem ‘A Photograph’ is a tribute to her mother. The poet describes three stages in passage of time. In the first stage, the photograph shows the poet’s mother standing at the beach enjoying her holiday with her two girl cousins. She was around 12 years old at that time. The second stage takes us twenty or thirty years later. The mother would laugh at the way she and her cousins were dressed up for the beach holiday. In the third stage, the poet remembers the dead mother with a heavy heart. The photograph revives a nostalgic feeling (longing for long gone moments) in the poet.