The readings giving for this week gave a different sense of perspective. The feeling of approval was the main concept in which the authors conveyed throughout their readings. As each character displayed their reasoning for wanting their loved ones’ affections, we can see that sacrifice is needed by each character. I would like to show their sacrifice from two of the readings.

The readings of "Digging" by Seamus Heaney displayed a wanting to carry on the family trait. The man within the readings came to a realization that he wouldn't be able to partake in this honor. Instead of drowning in sorrow, he looked at his innate ability in a different sense. With the character's outlook on his life, he chose not to feel disvalued because of his inability. He embraced his talents for writing and used that gift as a way to honor his father and grandfather. The words that he used to do so were that of, "Between my finger and my thumb the squat pen rests. I'll dig with it (Heaney 11.29-31)." The statement given is what paints the image of a man respecting the talents of his elders, while still embracing the gift sought to display.

The picture symbolized a person looking about in to the land of which needs tending. The writer in the story did not have the ability to farm the land as his father and grandfather did. I noticed the land looks like it is dying somewhat and this will be what happens to the land once his father no longer tends to do it. This is what I view from the picture given.

The last story that I wish to address is titled "Barn Burning" by William Faulkner. The story has a character that doesn’t have the true courage to please himself or his father. While the boy within the story obeyed his father, his ambitious desire to correct the behavior he disagreed with festered deeply inside himself. The boy remained tortured by his own need to do the right thing. While his father was negative, the boy was a person who wanted to be positive and do the right thing. The life of the boy was tarnished by this fact alone. The father would never give the boy his approval due to his son’s lack of loyalty. When the father said, “You were fixing to tell them. You would have told him” (Faulkner) the boy didn’t answer knowing that his was going to do so. Now that his father was aware of his son’s disloyalty the trust between them diminished greatly. With this being a fact, the boy could never gain his father’s approval. This would be the sense of approval that was sought for by the boy and never achieved.

The picture that I chose for the "Barn Burning" has a sense of violence. Within the story the father abused the son for his disloyalty which made this particular picture make sense to me. The father did strike the boy within the story to show that his was not pleased with his attempt to be disloyal. I hope that you enjoyed the reading and thank you so much for taking the time to read. I hope that you have a wonderful rest of your day.