

**Questions on My Father's Garden by David Wagoner:**

1. What is the speaker's tone? Is he angry, sad, or happy?
2. How many references to fire, and things burning, occur in this poem? What is the relationship between these references and the central ideas of the poem?
3. Is it important that the speaker never directly names the relationship between himself and the man he is describing? Note that only the title identifies "the melter" as the speaker's father.
4. How is the father presented in the final lines of the poem? Is the father's pride in his creations portrayed as a justified delight, or as an idealistic absurdity?