

Write a guided analysis of the following text.

The following poem is by Freda Downie.

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### Window

End of season, end of play – no one left  
But a boy playing with the lonely sea  
On the rain-wet shore below that runs  
Helplessly on and on into advancing dusk.

5     Pushed under the cliff, houses look to themselves,  
Look blindly away from the darkening game  
In which the boy runs purposefully  
Seawards and shorewards at the tide's edge  
Like someone bearing a message no one

10    Wishes to receive – something written long ago  
In his head, now overgrown with hair.  
He will never stop running, for his limbs  
Are oiled, his skill increases mysteriously  
And the sea has become hopelessly attached.

15    When he runs shorewards feigning fear,  
Like a father being chased by his own child,  
The sea rushes after him, monstrously grey;  
But when he turns, it whitens and retreats.

20    And while this goes on, here in the house –  
As if by special arrangement –  
Someone very quietly plays Reynaldo Hahn\*.  
The boy does not know this; he is only human.  
Soon the game must end unaccompanied.

25    But no, he is turning and running again  
To hidden music, as if for the first time.

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\* Reynaldo Hahn: a French composer

– In what ways does the use of imagery help to create atmosphere in the poem?

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