

Review: Reviewed by Diana Lopez for Readers' Favorite

The Better Part of Some Time is a collection of poems about real-life situations. The first part is primarily involved with family moments, and the second part talks about life in general. This includes experiences, expectations, and even disappointments. These poems remind us that there are no manuals for life and we cannot predict when a change or significant loss will occur. The third part introduces a more spiritual quest. Author Mike Madill keeps his feet on the ground and reflects on his experiences. He writes from a perspective that includes evaluating death as well as a search for the true self. There is a time when we all wonder who we are, and this theme is explored. Mike believes that it is necessary to avoid the routines imposed on us by society. The theme of the collection involves contemplating our everyday experiences and learning to view them in a new way.

I liked The Better Part of Some Time because it relates poetry to everyday life. Mike Madill describes commonplace situations and his family, but he also shows us that there are often moments that don't have to be classified as good or bad. Some experiences are there simply because they are part of our personal development. Another feature that interested me was his description of the interiors of houses. Mike speaks about the people who live there but without describing them directly, and it is the surrounding objects that give us clues about the occupants. Reading these poems is like having photographs that show you a concrete and significant moment. The author is like a friend who invites us to get to know him in depth and enjoy time together.