**The Magic of the Brain**

Such a sight I saw:

An eight-sided kite surging up into a cloud

Its eight tails streaming out as if they were one.

It lifted my heart as starlight lifts the head

Such a sight I saw.

And such a sound I heard.

One bird through dim winter light as the day was closing

Poured out a song suddenly from an empty tree.

It cleared my head as water refreshes the skin

Such a sound I heard.

Such a smell I smelled:

A mixture of roses and coffee, of green leaf and warmth.

It took me to gardens and summer and cities abroad,

Memories of meetings as if my past friends were here

Such a smell I smelled.

Such a soft fur I felt.

It wrapped me around, soothing my winter-cracked skin,

Not gritty or stringy or sweaty but silkily warm

As my animal slept on my lap, and we both breathed content

Such soft fur I felt.

Such food I tasted:

Smooth-on-tongue-soup, and juicy crackling of meat,

Greens like fresh fields, sweet-on-your-palate peas,

Jellies and puddings and fragrance of fruit they are made from

Such good food I tasted.

Such a world comes in:

Far world of the sky to breathe in through your nose

Near world you feel underfoot as you walk on the land.

Through your eyes and your ears and your mouth and your brilliant brain

Such a world comes in.

***Jenny Joseph***

**Questions - *‘The Magic of the Brain’* by Jenny Joseph**

1. Why did the author write that ‘*starlight lifts the head’*? How does the word *starlight* make you feel?
2. Why does the author use the word *surging* instead of rising?
3. What verb does the author use instead of ‘sing a song? (Line 8) Why did she choose that?
4. Why would a bird singing clear the author’s head?
5. How does this poem make you feel?
6. What is your favourite paragraph of the poem and why?
7. Why did the author choose the fur she felt on her skin to be from a live animal? How does this make you feel about her?
8. What does each paragraph have in common?
9. Find 2 similes you like and tell me why

10) *Brilliant brain* is an example of what? Find 2 others in the poem!