How to Read Reflections

BEFORE YOU BEGIN READING

What kind of text is it?
The text is a reflective essay that appeared first in Gidra, a magazine published in Los Angeles from 1969 to 1974.

Who wrote it?
Sue Kunitonomi Embry became a spokesperson for thousands of Japanese Americans who were imprisoned during the anti-Japanese hysteria at the beginning of World War II.

Who is the intended audience?
Gidra was a newsmagazine aimed at the Asian American community in southern California.

READ THE TEXT AT LEAST TWICE AND MAKE NOTES

What is the focus of the reflection?
"The title and first paragraph announce that the focus of the reflection is Embrey’s younger brother Tetsu."

What did the writer learn or understand differently from the reflection?
Embrey came to terms with painful memories of being interned in the Manzanar concentration camp and losing her brother after the war.

Where does the writer include details and dialogue?
Details and dialogue show the evolving relationship between Embrey and her younger brother.

How would you characterize the style?
The style is informal and personal. The writer conveys her feelings about the loss of her brother.
How is it organized?

This map shows the organization of “Some Lines for a Younger Brother . . .”, which begins on the following page.

- **Introductory paragraphs**
  Paragraphs 1–3
  - Embrey sets the scene by describing the day her younger brother was born. She describes her family of eight children and her father’s occupation, ending the section with his early death.

- **Complication**
  Paragraphs 4–6
  - After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, the family lost their business and possessions and were sent to the Manzanar Relocation Camp.

- **Effects**
  Paragraphs 7–17
  - Growing up in a concentration camp disillusioned Embrey’s younger brother Tets. The family was scattered during the war. When the family was partially reunited after the war, Tets could not readjust. He joined the Army to escape.

- **Resolution**
  Paragraphs 18–19
  - The resolution is tragic. Tets came home from the Korean War in a coffin.

- **Conclusion**
  Paragraphs 20–22
  - Embrey returns the Manzanar Relocation Camp in 1969. The visit brings back memories of Tets as a 12-year-old and brings a sense of closure.