

Search word  
 to rep (symbolic)  
 Starts of life  
 Summer's peak  
 time  
 the  
 summer  
 is  
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 peak  
 time  
 for  
 preparation  
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 next  
 stage  
 of  
 life  
 (symbolic)  
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 (symbolic)

Summer is fading: gradual don't notice  
 Afternoons - plural (Autumn)  
 growing dimmer - less beautiful  
 vanishing, like the moment of beauty  
 not always noticeable  
 gradual, continued, decay

The leaves fall in ones and twos - mothers border  
 importance - children in the middle, protect them.  
 From trees bordering - mothers border  
 new stage:

The new recreation ground. newly built, ordinary; fun for kids.  
 women + no business  
 children; not busy, brief rest.

In the hollows of afternoons - Emptiness; adapt to mood of loss.  
 formal conversations, routine.

Young mothers assemble - formal conversations, regimented. no pleasure  
 school, everyday; regimented. no pleasure  
 of j' gains momentum

At swing and sandpit - energy + vigour of children  
 enjoyment of Jenza | reinforces  
 how long can creep up + how  
 Setting free their children.

Behind them, at intervals, - physical + emotional distance, on by day  
 from at certain times. no romance  
 but re-estimated, women not perceived  
 for reality children

Stand husbands in skilled trades, - not professionals, women  
 amount of  
 An estateful of washing, metaphor for domestic drudgery  
 also unessential place to live.

And the albums, lettered - provides use a lie? , fictional.  
 many put - discarded,

Our Wedding, lying - Stories on t.v. entertainment, like it happened to  
 someone else. T.V. gets more attention than they  
 deserve.

Near the television: - see their past slipping away.  
 (language)  
 Before them, the wind  
 blows  
 no privacy from wicks.

Is ruining their courtship-places - ~~see~~ no privacy from wicks.  
 seems so long ago.

That are still courtship-places - not for Be mother  
 environment suggests life goes  
 on, it's changed for them but new  
 generation is discussing it.

(But the lovers are all in school), - pre-emptive war  
 single-minded  
 And their children, so intent on - learning knowledge  
 innocent. - unwise if that still young.

Finding more unripe acorns, - Symbolises search for unalloyed growth.  
 Expect to be taken home. - unreal to admit forces home but still is

Their beauty has thickened. - lost their figures 1 years ago  
 weightless, retreat to the past.

Something is pushing them forward, no control.

To the side of their own lives. yet no real control over the  
 direction. family as a family.

By Philip Larkin

Contrast old with new. Newness is an unattractive  
 idea in the poem, it's a reminder of that the  
 women find slipping from them. The new means  
 they feel old + different.

present participles (-ing) - indicates the gradual new with which this  
 change is creeping over them. It also seems continuous

no larger young  
 not specific  
 (children)

cynical tone  
 no longer the  
 focus, looking on

can be applied to all of us.