Nostalgia and Its Discontents by Svetlana Boym

1. **Summary:** In the article 'Nostalgia and its Discontents' by Svetlana Boym, she talks about the history

2. **Response:** I did not know that nostalgic love can only survive in a long-distance relationship and how she sees it as a symptom of our age. I find it really interesting when she said “nostalgia appears to be a longing for a place, but it is actually a yearning for a different time” because people do not realise that. It is unbelievable that in extreme cases it can create a phantom homeland where someone is really to die or kill. It is interesting how only a trip to the alps soothes the symptoms. I agree with Hofer when he mentioned that his patients loved the charm of their native and to the point of sickness but then later on doctors discovered that a return home was not always helpful. It is interesting how in the different times, doctors had all different cure ideas. There are so many ways of nostalgia. I can imagine that as a result of society’s industrialisation, a social meaning opened up. I feel like people find it hard to recreate a lost home and miss their historical time. I find it impressive how reflective nostalgia has a kind of defamiliarization and a sense of distance which is completely different to the other kinds. I agree with Marcel Proust that it has a lot to do with memory like when he says “The memory of a particular image is but regret for a particular moment,…” It is interesting how it has so many different meanings, it can be a poison, a cure or a countercultural practice.

3. **Quotes:** “The fantasies of the past, determined by the needs of the present, have a direct impact on the realities of the future.” “nostalgia appears to be a longing for a place, but it is actually a yearning for a different time” “While restorative nostalgia returns and rebuild one homeland with paranoid determination, reflective nostalgia fears return with the same passion.” “Leave dreams alone, let them be no more and no less than dreams, not guidelines for the future.”

4. **Questions:** Did people used to have a better time because they miss it?

5. **Vocabulary:** outmoded, patriotism, inciting, conspiracy, enamored,