Directions: Below are two poems that deal with choices and could be appropriate poems for the Poem Character Commentary Response Paper. Read through the poem first to make meaning; then consider possible parallels to *The Kite Runner* and Hosseini’s characters.

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| **Traveling Through The Dark (853)**William Stafford  |

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|   | Traveling through the dark I found a deerdead on the edge of the Wilson River road.It is usually best to roll them into the canyon:that road is narrow; to swerve might make more dead.By glow of the tail-light I stumbled back of the carand stood by the heap, a doe, a recent killing;she had stiffened already, almost cold.I dragged her off; she was large in the belly.My fingers touching her side brought me the reason--her side was warm; her fawn lay there waiting,alive, still, never to be born.Beside that mountain road I hesitated.The car aimed ahead its lowered parking lights;under the hood purred the steady engine.I stood in the glare of the warm exhaust turning red;around our group I could hear the wilderness listen.I thought hard for us all--my only swerving--,then pushed her over the edge into the river. **Q:** What does the persona do with the mama and baby deer? What do you think of the persona’s decision—was it the right thing to do?**Road Not Taken (748)**-Robert FrostTwo roads diverged in a yellow wood,And sorry I could not travel bothAnd be one traveler, long I stood And looked down one as far as I couldTo where it bent in the undergrowth; Then took the other, as just as fairAnd having perhaps the better claim,Because it was grassy and wanted wear;Though as for that, the passing thereHad worn them really about the same, **Q:** What path did the persona choose? What’s ironic about that choice?And both that morning equally layIn leaves no step had trodden blackOh, I kept the first for another day!Yet knowing how way leads on to way,I doubted if I should ever come back. I shall be telling this with a sighSomewhere ages and ages hence:two roads diverged in a wood, and I -- I took the one less traveled by,And that has made all the difference.  |

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