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Marquart Timed Write

Marquart's used numerous descriptive words to create imagery for readers to see how vast the midwest was for immigrants from Russia to have interest in settling in that general area.

As stated in the first paragraph, Lines 3-5, "... you'll encounter a road so lonely, treeless, and devoid of rises and curves in places that it will feel like one long-held pedal steel guitar note." The land is described as a desolate area, secluded, and plain.

Marquart compares this area to a "long-held pedal steel guitar note." She's portraying this simile to the incessant, banal rode of I-94.

Later in the passage, Marquart uses ethos to further characterize the upper Midwest.

The region is declared "a dreary plain for cultivation," and "uninhabitable by a people depending upon agriculture for subsistence." (Lines 39-41)

This area is deserted. There is no one there to settle on the land and there's a huge open space available. However, despite the unimpressive early assessors, the plain

Later on became a farmable piece of land as line 35 states. Also, Marquart's uses a metaphor to say that "this is the

Heartland," (Line 46). She then mentions

Jefferson's inhabitation of this area in which he came up with the "idea of a rectangular cadastral survey," (Line 47).

Marquet emphasized the essentialness of this region by referring it to be "Heartland,"

and by mentioning Jefferson, she added more ethos of someone who is quite well-known to show the reader the importance of this area.

The upper Midwest is described with great detail throughout the entire passage. It is described as containing "steep valleys, rivers, foothills, and mountains," (Lines 53-54). However, these features was what "foiled the grid."

The dialogue in Lines 59-61 states that "the place was a mess... became a young nation's job to fix it with geometry, democracy, seeds, steam, steel, and water." The region was fixable, but it still had a great amount of work ahead for it.

In Lines 73-75, "the anticipation as they [great-grandparents] waited along with the other immigrants from Russia to receive their allotments of land."

Marquet's compared and contrasted the earlier upper Midwest to the later recent one. This area is characterized as a great, huge piece of land, waiting to be settled on. The author also used anecdote, including a story about her grandparents, who rode on a train to get to the vast Midwest.

Marquart's anecdote about her grandparents helped convey to the reader that this once unimpressive land later on became the place where several people traveled to in order to "receive their allotment of land," (Lines 74-75).