"*Everything I knew vanished behind me with an audible swish, like the sound a moose makes disappearing into spruce*," (Wagamese, 43).

In this quote, Wagamese is describing how Saul feels as he arrives at the residential school. Because he is writing this story as a flashback to his life, he is foreshadowing that his family and his culture will disappear because of his experiences at the school. I think the use of the onomatopoeia "swish" makes the image stand out because the sound is how a moose may sound as it disappears into the forest. As I have a Western heritage, I would have thought the "swish" of a curtain would fit this image of his life changing in one quick event. However, because Wagamese is Ojibway, I wonder if he uses the images of nature, of the Canadian landscape, to reinforce his connection to the land. He chooses the simile "...like a moose disappearing into spruce" which creates an image of a beautiful, wild animal disappearing into the Canadian forest, just like his beautiful, wild life has disappeared too.