Name:

**Analysis paragraph outline**

Make sure to include the title and the author in the inference statement.

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| **Inference Statement (topic sentence):** Modest Mouse’s “The Ocean Breathes Salty” video portrays a story of a fatherless boy and suggests that, for a child, ***the loss of a parent creates an unfillable void***. |
| **Evidence 1:** Near the beginning of the video, the boy attempts to play catch with a scarecrow; later, during a dream sequence, the boy plays catch with a man in a crow suit, presumably his father.  | **How this evidence helps prove my inference:**The dream shows the boy’s strong desire to have a father figure and friend, but outside of the dream, the viewer sees the harsh reality that the boy is left to play on his own, revealing a void that even his mother can’t fill. |
| **Evidence 2:** Caring for the father figure in his dream – creating the splint, providing food and water as the father figure is injured …  | **How this evidence helps prove my inference:** Through these actions, the boy displays the mutual love of a healthy father-son relationship, and having this happen in a dream reinforces his inability to experience this type of relationship in reality. |
| **Evidence 3:** In the video’s final moments, we see the band members appear from the ground in the locations of makeshift grave markers and dressed as various animals, revealing that the crow wasn’t the only animal the boy tried to rescue.  | **How this evidence helps prove my inference:** Repeatedly nurturing injured animals, the boy reveals that, in the absence of a father figure, he is desperate to find a caring relationship anywhere he can – even where the relationship is doomed to fail. |
| Clincher (restatement of inference): Through the boy’s story, we see the incurable longing of a child missing a parent.  |