

Pride by Marilyn Cay

he Challenges his father
to arm wrestle
and the two ready themselves
at the kitchen table
this time
there is something about the son's calmness
that makes the father insist upon a fair start
his arm tense
the father breaks with speed
in order to put his son's arm down soundly

but he meets with iron this time
the two arms tremble, straight up and down
muscles bulging
hands gripping tightly

afterwards the mother says
the father was the big winner
even though it is her son
whose strength prevailed



Consider how the above poem relates to the concept of perspective

"Pride" is notable for its understatement. What details or events did the poet choose not to reveal, and how does this contribute to the understatement?

In general, why is understatement an effective writing technique?