

death cloaked as a metaphor translate to the poet's lack of willingness to confront the reality of the death of someone close to him, as he will later reveal in the last stanza. Those who are old should "burn" and "rave" as they are about to die. The choice of verbs here is of note: he wants vigour, passion. The repetition of command "rage" emphasises those demands of his for them to be passionate. The first five stanzas depict Thomas' wishes for different types of men who should either "rage, rage against the dying of the light" or "not go gentle into that good night". This is how, he thinks, people should react to death. The fact that he mentions "old age" at in the first stanza of the poem echoes the last, more personal, one whereby he reveals that his prompt for the poem had been his father. He observes the life being robbed away from someone who was once vibrant and urges for a spark to reignite. This plea is tainted with innermost personal feelings. The insistent tone of the poem makes more sense when one realises that the subject is his father, who "there on the sad height" ought to display more emotions as his dying moments lie before him. Thomas equates "curse" with "bless" as he views his father's "fierce tears" to show that he still has some life in him, but he would also curse those tears, because his father will ultimately die. This poem's approach to death is vastly different from the crude grotesquerie present within *Endgame*, it is a plea, from son to father, driven by his emotions to compose this lament. In this poem, death calls for defense mechanisms to enable those dealing with it first-hand, and others like Thomas, who witness the death of their loved one, to accept it and come to terms with it better. But death in "Do not gentle go into that good night", just like death in *Endgame*, is inevitable, because the light will always die, and night will always come.

"A Refusal to Mourn" sheds light on further coping mechanisms brought about by death, one of which is mourning. The need to mourn in that particular instant is, however, denied, because Thomas believes that it is the wrong way to grieve the death of a child: "I shall not murder/ The mankind of her going with a grave truth/ Nor blaspheme down the stations of the breath/ With any further/ Elegy of innocence and