

bledygoo” and “glue,” but they add to the childlike effect. These simple, mono-syllabic words paired with words like “chuffing” and “Luftwaffe” make it seem like there is an internal struggle between being a ‘daddy’s girl’ and an adult woman. The twelfth stanza is also important, because it uses mostly simple diction to talk about a complex topic. For example, it says, “Bit my pretty red heart in two. I was ten when they buried you. At twenty I tried to die and get back, back, back to you. I thought even the bones would do.” The simple word choice creates a contrast with the mentioned suicide attempt and her wish to be with her father in death. Suicide is such a complicated action, and to speak of it in such a child-like and simplistic way shows how much she loved her father, and how much she hates him for dying and leaving her.

A major theme in this poem is feminism. Though this poem does not address feminism outright, it can be seen from this perspective, and serve as a powerful statement from a female against males. It's not limited to addressing one male, but any male who has hurt, betrayed, or died and left behind their daughters and wives. “Daddy” is not only about the speaker's relationship with her father, but also about women's relationships with men in general. It was written in the 1960s, when feminists fought for women's rights and made big progress in the way that gender was viewed in society. The speaker also depicts herself as a victim by saying she is like “a Jew,” and her father is like “a Nazi.” This could be interpreted as straying away from feminism because it is portraying her as weak; however, a better interpretation is that women have been dominated by men for long enough, and this poem is her way of breaking off her emotional and physical need from her father, and also men in general.

In conclusion, while the speaker of Sylvia Plath's poem, “Daddy,” expresses deep hatred for her father who died when she needed him most, she also struggles with loving him, and her