

"The heart out of the bosom
Was never given in vain;
'Tis paid with sighs a plenty
And sold for endless rue".
15 And I am two-and-twenty,
And oh, 'tis true, 'tis true,

Questions

1. What does the speaker say he "heard a wise man say"?
2. What, according to lines 7-8, was the speaker's reaction to his advice?
3. Why could the young man not make the advice?
4. How long was it before he found he agreed with what the wise man had said?
5. What had happened to make the lover realize that the wise man's words were true?
6. What is significant about the fact that the speaker has twice received advice?
7. How is this significance relevant in light of the poem's theme?



Virtue

George Herbert

Sweet day, so cool, so calm, so bright,
The bridal of the earth and sky;
The dew shall weep thy fall tonight;
For thou must die.

5 Sweet rose, whose hue angry and brave¹
Bids the rash gazer wipe his eye;
Thy root is ever in its grave,
And thou must die.
Sweet spring, full of sweet days and roses,
10 A box where sweets² compacted lie;
My music shows ye have your closes³,
And all must die.

1. Red (the hue of anger) and splendid.
2. Perfumes.
3. The concluding sounds.

Only a sweet and virtuous soul,
Like seasoned timber, never gives;
But though the whole world turn to coal¹,
Then chiefly lives.

Questions

1. In the first stanza what happens to "sweet day"?
2. What happens to "sweet rose" in the second stanza?
3. In the third stanza what happens to "sweet spring"?
4. In the last stanza what happens to the "sweet and virtuous soul"?
5. What do the last lines of each stanza say?



Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

6 My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

10 He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
15 And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

Questions

1. Describe the setting — both the time and place — of the poem.

1. Turn to cinder: Be reduced to cinder and ash by the fires of the Last Judgment. (see II Peter 3:10).