

Central Idea

“To Blossoms” reflects the fate/destiny of all living things. Every single soul on the planet earth has got a very short span of time to bloom like the blossoms and then they are destined to wither away. Thus, every thing on this planet is temporary (transient).

Paraphrase (Summary)

The poem “To Blossoms” has been written by Robert Herrick. In this poem the poet highly praises the beautiful blossoms of a tree. By ‘pledges’ the poet means the indication of the rich crop. The poet appears grief-stricken owing to the fast fall of the blossoms. Filled with grief, the poet asks the blossoms why they ‘re falling so soon. He says that their days haven’t yet passed. So, they would not hurry to fade away. He says that the blossoms still have got enough time to bloom and smile. They (blossoms) can only go, when they have lived and enjoyed their life in full. Here the poet appears conspicuous about the fact that like human-beings blossoms bloom but only to disappear, but he doesn’t want the blossoms to disappear very soon. He wants the blossoms to blush and then gently smile before their death (before they fade away). The poet seems to suggest here that one should live and enjoy life in full because death is inevitable.

The poet is taken aback to see how early the bloom of the blossoms disappear/fade away. The poet wonders how these blossoms are born to give an hour or half’s delight and then they fade away forever. The poet takes it disappointing, that how nature shows its beauty by bringing them forth for a while and then they disappear forever. The poet again appears grief-stricken that such beautiful, lovely blossoms have got a very short life, in which they bloom for a short span of time and eventually fade away forever.

By ‘lovely leaves’ the poet here means the leaves of a book (poet has compared the blossoms with the leaves of a book). The poet says that in these leaves (blossoms) we can read how early life on this earth has to face its end. The poet highly praises the loveliness of the blossoms. He says none could take the place of blossoms, as far as, their brightness and catchy colour is concerned. But the poet is aware that all beautiful things are destined to die (we cannot change the fate). After they have shown their beauty, they straight-away glide into the grave. Every single soul is bound to disappear like those of the beautiful blossoms. The poet thus gives the message that all life on this planet (earth) is temporary and destined to fade away.

