Poetry Anthology Theme

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1/14/13

War Poem Links:

[Meeting with Death](http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/19396)

[Fall of Rome](http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/15546)

[I Hear an Army](http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/19321)

[Veterans of Foreign Wars](http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/23055)

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Response to Meeting with Death:

“I Have a Rendezvous with Death” is a poem about the horrors of war, and what has occurred during the course of many battles, but it talks about this after w. It repeats, “I have a rendezvous with Death” many times during the course of the poem, repeated to add emphasis to this fact (Death is also a proper noun). The author also talks about Death, as stated earlier, in proper noun form and implies that Death is a part of life.

Response to The Fall of Rome:

“The Fall of Rome” is a poem about what happens when, and after a civilization falls and goes in depth to a world at war. It shows all the horrors that war brings and that every city, even great ones, must fall eventually. Like the last line on the 6th stanza, “Eye each flu-infected city” shows that even something like a plague, or illness, can bring down the mightiest empires eventually.

Response to I Hear an Army:

“I Hear an Army” is a poem about the horrors of medieval raids, and the arrogance of rich knights in shining black armor “They cry into the night their battle-name.” All the lines in these poems are of the midnight raids and the toll they take on innocent people and enemies alike, it also shows that humans show no mercy and must think before they act. I think this poem is an excellent example of the sounds of war, like “The Star Spangled Banner.” Although it is a 20th century poem it still accurately depicts medieval warfare and the noises and panic of a midnight raid (which still happens today).

Response to Veterans of Foreign Wars:

“Veterans of Foreign Wars” is about what people are like after wars, what war does to people and why it is such a horrible thing. It also shows that some people do escape from war and become good, hard-working people:

“The auxiliary policeman from Daugavpils,

And the chemical engineer,

Who always gave me hard candy.”

These are people that became better people after being touched by violence. Although the poem also shows that people will never stay untouched by war:

“Though grandfather spit

And grandmother hurried me away

When she saw them coming.”