

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the poem, the thesis writer finds out that the analysis answers the questions of the statement of the problem. The poem is divided into three significant events. The first event is the time when Lincoln is dead, and the second event is the description of the funeral ceremony that shows the coffin's journey to the graveyard, and the third event is Whitman's attitude towards the death of Lincoln. Whitman accepts death as something real, something that surely comes to life and he does not need to be afraid of facing it.

Abraham Lincoln was born February 12th, 1809; he strongly hated the whole system of slavery. Lincoln was elected president of the United States in 1860 and he was assassinated April 14th, 1865. When Lincoln died, Walt Whitman who loved Lincoln very much was inspired by a star. He looked that there was a great star early droop'd in the night. At the first time he did not know the meaning of all, but finally he knew that Lincoln, the president was assassinated. In "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd", a Whitman's literary work, gives explanation about that, which happened in the fourth-month eve at sundown. The flags drop the cities in black, the women are veiled with their mourning dress, the flambeaus of night, dirges through the night, and the dim-lit churches show the background of sadness and sorrow. Whitman follows where

the coffin passes and gives sprig of lilacs. The lilacs as the blooming perennial plants grow in spring. It is symbol of life and rebirth.

Based on the result of the analysis, the thesis writer comes to a conclusion that death is a mystery that should be faced because it is a reality. It will come to anyone sooner or later, to youngsters or elders. Death can come anytime and nobody knows the exact time when death approaches, that is why people should increase their awareness in life. Since life is short, so it would be better if it is used to do something worthwhile. The thesis writer believes that when death comes, everyone should be ready and responsible for everything done in life. Then life would be really worth living.

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