

Humanities final: summary of literature



My Last Duchess by Browning A Duke is talking to a servant about a painting of his former duchess (wife). He explains to the servant that only he is allowed to draw the curtain to show the painting. His duchess was easily pleased (she smiled at everything), she blushed easily. Soliloquy of the

Spanish Cloister by Browning Starts off with the speaker (who is unknown) despising brother Lawrence. The setting is at a monastery. The speaker goes through his work day complaining about how awful brother Lawrence.

Brother Lawrence really isn't that bad of a guy, but the speaker just really doesn't like him at all Porphyria's Lover by Browning The speaker is in a cabin on a stormy night with Porphyria, as she makes a warm fire for them. The speaker is laying with Porphyria when he realizes how much she loves him, so he decides to strangle her with her own hair. Once she dies he still lays with her in bed.

God's Grandeur by Hopkins The earth is full God's special power, God's vitality, but the earth is temporary. Speaker asks why humans don't take better care of the earth. the world is bent (but not broken). Then the author goes on to say that there will always be light after the night. The

Holy Ghost watches over the earth. Pied Beauty by Hopkins Pied =

Multicolored; doxology ("glory be..."); The speaker says we should glorify God because he has given us dappled, spotted, freckled, checkered, speckled, things. The speaker lists examples as to why we should praise God. The speaker thinks we should praise God for everything that looks like it doesn't quite fit in with the rest. The Windhover by Hopkins Windhover = falcon; speaker talks about how the windhover had "hover" around while looking for prey. The beauty and power of the bird totally blow his mind.

Thou Art Indeed Just, Lord by Hopkins Starts out with an intro from Jeremiah. Asks why sinners prosper. "O thou lord of life, send my roots rain." Carrion

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Comfort Speaker starts off by saying he is not going to kill himself because of despair. The speaker doesn't wait around too long for an answer to his question, though. He's got a guess: despair is not crushing him; it's changing him - and for the better. The speaker's heart has grown more joyful. Speaker is unsure who he should cheer on. At the end, the speaker realizes that he was wrestling with God.

The Dream of an Hour by Chopin Mrs. Mallard's husband dies and she weeps uncontrollably, then locks herself in her room. Even though she is sad about her husband's death, she feels free and liberated for the first time. Then, Mr. Mallard walks in and she realizes that he is not dead. When she sees him, she is overwhelmed with shock and dies.

Désirée's Baby by Chopin Desiree Valmont was brought up in Louisiana during slavery. About a marriage between two different races. They fall in love, get married, and have a baby. The husband realizes the baby isn't fully white and knows it isn't his. The baby's real mom is a slave. He kicks her out and walks off into the bayou.

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