**Death Stands Above Me**

By Walter Savage Landor

Death stands above me, whispering low

I know not what into my ear;

 Of his strange language all I know

Is, there is not a word of fear.

# Mirror

# by Sylvia Plath

I am silver and exact. I have no preconceptions.   
Whatever I see I swallow immediately   
Just as it is, unmisted by love or dislike.   
I am not cruel, only truthful ‚   
The eye of a little god, four-cornered.   
Most of the time I meditate on the opposite wall.   
It is pink, with speckles. I have looked at it so long   
I think it is part of my heart. But it flickers.   
Faces and darkness separate us over and over.   
  
Now I am a lake. A woman bends over me,   
Searching my reaches for what she really is.   
Then she turns to those liars, the candles or the moon.   
I see her back, and reflect it faithfully.   
She rewards me with tears and an agitation of hands.   
I am important to her. She comes and goes.   
Each morning it is her face that replaces the darkness.   
In me she has drowned a young girl, and in me an old woman   
Rises toward her day after day, like a terrible fish.

**The Hound**

by Robert Francis

Life the hound

Equivocal

Comes at a bound

Either to rend me

Or to befriend me.

I cannot tell

The hound’s intent

Till he has sprung

At my bare hand

With teeth or tongue.

Meanwhile I stand

And wait the event.

**There is no frigate like a book**

by Emily Dickinson

There is no frigate like a book  
To take us lands away,  
Nor any coursers like a page  
Of prancing poetry.  
This traverse may the poorest take  
Without oppress of toll;  
How frugal is the chariot  
That bears a human soul!

**Dream Deferred**

by Langston Hughes

What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up   
like a raisin in the sun?   
Or fester like a sore--   
And then run?   
Does it stink like rotten meat?   
Or crust and sugar over--   
like a syrupy sweet?

Maybe it just sags   
like a heavy load.

*Or does it explode*?

### If There Be Sorrow

by Mari Evans

If there be sorrow

let it be

For things undone...

Undreamed...

Unrealized...

Unattained...To these add one;

Love withheld …

… restrained.

**I felt a funeral in my brain**

By Emily Dickinson

I felt a Funeral, in my Brain,

And Mourners to and fro

Kept treading – treading – till it seemed

That Sense was breaking through –

And when they all were seated,

A Service, like a Drum –

Kept beating – beating – till I thought

My Mind was going numb –

And then I heard them lift a Box

And creak across my Soul

With those same Boots of Lead, again,

Then Space – began to toll,

As all the Heavens were a Bell,

And Being, but an Ear,

And I, and Silence, some strange Race

Wrecked, solitary, here –

And then a Plank in Reason, broke,

And I dropped down, and down –

And hit a World, at every plunge,

And Finished knowing – then –