

# Apocalypse

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Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
With throats unslaked, with black lips baked,  
In the long, long night by the lone firelight  
A werewolf, one night, escaped.

This is the way the world ends! 5  
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world  
In the startled ear of night.

Grave men, near death, who see with blinding sight  
Love and constancy is dead,  
And all this is folly to the world. 10  
Does it stink like rotten meat?

They think I'm telling lies  
If those I loved were lost.

Shall I compare thee to a summers day?  
You are like a flower. 15  
You've fallen cold and dead.  
Let us leave this place where the smoke blows black.

This poem is a Cento, and each line is taken from a different poem and poet. Only William Shakespeare is represented twice. You should read these poems as well. The source poems are as follows:

1. "The Road Not Taken", Robert Frost
2. "Rime of the Ancient Mariner", Samuel Coleridge
3. "The Cremation of Sam McGee", Robert Service
4. "Der Werwolf", Christian Morgenstern
5. "The Hollow Men", Thomas Eliot
6. "The Second Coming", William Yeats
7. "The Bells", Edgar Poe
8. "Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night.", Dylan Thomas
9. "The Phoenix and the Turtle", William Shakespeare
10. "A Girl", Ezra Pound
11. "A Dream Deferred", Langston Hughes
12. "Phenomenal Woman", Maya Angelou
13. "If Those I Loved Were Lost", Emily Dickenson
14. "Sonnet 18", William Shakespeare
15. "Du Bist Wie Eine Blume", Heinrich Heine
16. "O Captain, My Captain", Walt Whitman
17. "Where the Sidewalk Ends", Shel Silverstein