**In Flanders Fields - John McCrae**

In Flanders fields the poppies blow

Between the crosses, row on row,

That mark our place; and in the sky

The larks, still bravely singing, fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago

We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,

Loved and were loved, and now we lie

In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:

To you from failing hands we throw

The torch; be yours to hold it high.

If ye break faith with us who die

We shall not sleep, though poppies grow

In Flanders fields.

**Analysis:**

In Flanders Fields is a poem written by John McCrae during the 1st World War, published in 1915.

The intelligent reader considering the title understands that the poem looks place in Flanders, one of the three regions of Belgium.

The poem consist of three stanzas with rhyme scheme AABBA AABC AABBAC and it recalls the French form, dating back to the 13th Century, known as a rondeau. A rondeau traditionally has 13 lines of 8 syllables length.

The first stanza introduces the semantic field of the war through the image of soldiers who crosses the poppies and the sound of the guns. In addition also “in the sky, the larks” emphasizes the idea of natura beauty and freedom. So here the poet creates a contrast between the image of nature and freedom and the horror of the war.

“Poppies” at line 1 were a symbol for death in war before World War One, but it was McCrae’s poem that helped to popularize the poppy as a sign of remembrance for the Great War. Poppies have been associated with the battlefield since at least the Napoleonic wars, when poppies would thrive and grow on the fields freshly manured by blood.

Death is opposed to life and natural elements are taken up: the sunrise and sunset. There is a sort of cycle because the soldier at the beginning of the poem were fighting in war and then they “lie in the Flanders Fields” at line 9.

The third and last stanza is an invitation to posterity. You need to remember the sacrifices of the ancestors who struggled against death for peace.

In conclusion this is a poem of remembrance, a call for people to do not forget the dead and the soldiers who died in a foreign land.