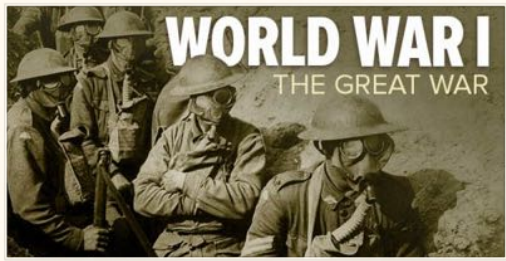


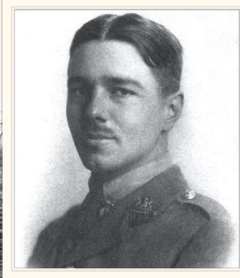
VOICES FROM WWI

POETRY ANALYSIS



VOICES FROM WWI

- ❖ 21 year old Lieutenant
- ❖ To his mother: "I have not been to the front, I've been in front of it."



VOICES FROM WWI



- ❖ Regeneration at Craiglockhart Hospital

— hero worship

- ❖ "You have fixed my life — however short. You did not light me: I was always a mad comet; but you have fixed me. I spun around you like a satellite for a month, but I shall wing out soon, a dark star in the orbit where you will blaze."



ANTHEM FOR DOOMED YOUTH

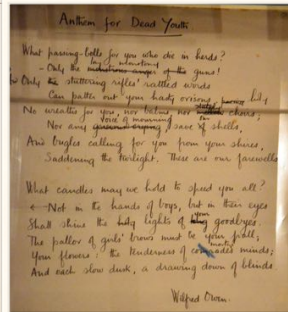
What passing-bells for these who die as cattle?
— Only the monstrous anger of the guns.
— Only the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle
Can patter out their hasty orisons.
No mockeries now for them; no prayers nor bells;
Nor any voice of mourning save the choirs,—
The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells;
And bugles calling for them from sad shires.

What candles may be held to speed them all?
Not in the hands of boys, but in their eyes
Shall shine the holy glimmers of goodbyes.
The pallor of girls' brows shall be their pall;
Their flowers the tenderness of patient minds,
And each slow dusk a drawing-down of blinds.

ANTHEM FOR DOOMED YOUTH

♦ Literary Devices:

- ♦ “Die as cattle” - mercilessly slaughtered
- ♦ Likens their deaths to a funeral, but one where the bells are shots, and the mourning choirs are the army bugles
- ♦ Drawing down of the blinds - traditional sign of mourning, likened to the drawing of a sheet to cover the dead
- ♦ = (repetition of vowel sounds), intended to be drawn out in a long and melancholy way, as melancholy as the subject of war itself



ANTHEM FOR DOOMED YOUTH

♦ Literary Devices:

- ♦
- ♦ Words used in a way that is meant to represent the sounds they would make
- ♦ “stuttering rifles,” “rapid rattle,” “patter out,” and “wailing shells”

