



Throughout ones life, we learn alot of things. When we are old we have tales of love, regret, hate & sorrow. We lose people we love & we gain friends that were once only strangers. But by the time we are old, all the doors are closed & our windows creak to a close ~~at~~ aswell, we learn to accept every bad thing & every good thing experience ~~are~~ that remain in our memories.

Although I am not an old woman just yet, William Butler Yeats' Poetry has ~~demonstrated~~ put forth his emotions & his thoughts of a time many years ~~before~~ prior his poetry readings.

It is safe to say that ~~felt~~ feelings of love, hate, regret & sorrow are banished by the simple resolution, which of course is acceptance.



W.B. Yeats' poems 'When you are Old' & 'The Wild Swans at Coole' although written in different atmosphere, have the same significance & purpose.

'When you are Old & full of Sleep' clearly imposes the suggestion of change & ageing whereby Yeats reflects on ~~his~~ another person's life, perhaps Maud, the woman he loved. He loved her for years but it was not a mutual love, ~~that~~ for she was the ~~main~~ reason for most of Yeats' poems of unrequited love.

The link of acceptance to both 'When you are Old' & 'Wild Swans at Coole' are scarce. Every year Yeats visits a river to see the swans, 'the nineteenth Autumn...' which again reflects change, but in a less subtle way.

He speaks of coming to this river, but only to one day find that the swans



have flown away, leaving behind 'great rings' in the water.

~~The~~ It is hard to say whether or not Yeats actually ~~to~~ journeyed to ~~the~~ Coole to see the swans. Are the swans a metaphor of a woman? ~~The~~ Coole is obviously a 'real' place, considering the specific name, but perhaps Yeats relates to the swans as women that have flown in & out of his life. The way that he accepts his loss is to go back again, year after year. Does he really accept it? If the swans do represent women then does going back to the place where he knows they will be, really accepting the fact that they leave him for a better place. In this day and ~~context~~ age, our context has changed. Although love is a timeless & universal theme, not many people these days love like



Yeats did, not only did he love but he often failed to accept, that the woman he loved so dearly could not love him equally.

When you are Old is a poem of advice, pity & regret. ~~Let~~ Let me say that this poem is indeed written for Maude, he tries to make her picture herself as an old woman, with grey hair, & 'Nodding by the fire'. Lets face it, it's going to happen to everyone, but Yeats wants her to feel bad, he paints her as a* lonely old woman, but lonlier & older, because he was not apart of her life. Because Maude shut him out, she was going to regret it! Well thats what he thinks.

Like anybody that has been rejected by a love interest, Yeats, ~~was~~ if in ~~the~~ Year 2007, would be sitting at



home on his lounge, listening to slow music, binge eating & writing a poem, perhaps. And of course he will be trying to explain to anyone that would listen that she will be sorry for saying no to the famous: William Butler Yeats!!

When you are Old & Wild Swans at Coole both look at love and loss & the different ways that one man will accept defeat. Yeats continued to write poetry, to share with us his feelings, thoughts & experiences, although he couldn't get the woman of his dreams, his themes such as love & loss will ~~to~~ forever ~~be~~ remain universal & timeless.

He who is no one in life will become a legend in death.