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The poem "Break, break, break," composed by Lord Tennyson, expresses the ~~very~~ <sup>lyrical</sup> emotion of the poet. Tennyson is a representative poet of the Victorian age. His poetry records the impressions of the whole age. He is a poet of average humanity. In his verse we find the ordinary life with ~~with~~ a considerable measure of Wordsworth's naked power of expression and homeliness of subject-matter. He portrays the emotions of everyday life with extraordinary delicacy and clarity.

"Break, break, break" is a very fine elegy. Tennyson records his sad emotions over the death of his close friend Arthur Hallam. The present poem is different from Shelley's "Adonais" and Milton's "Lycidas". Milton's "Lycidas" is a sad lamentation for his dead friend Edward King. "Adonais" presents the serious reflection of Shelley on the death of Keats. But the tragic emotions of Milton and Shelley are neither so profound nor so genuine as that of Tennyson in "Break, break, break".

The opening lines present a similarity between the poet and the sea. The poet sees the waves of the sea break on 'cold grey stones'. The poet discovers a note

of identity between his own sufferings and the grief of the sea. Identically between his own suffering and the fact that the sea is also in grief and torment. The sea is expressing its sorrow through waves dashing <sup>Similane</sup> against cold ~~an~~<sup>and</sup> grey stones. Identically the tragic emotions of the poet are breaking on his heart. Adjectives like 'cold' and 'grey' are very significant. They symbolise the condition of the poet's heart. The poet earnestly desires to express the feelings which arise in his heart but he fails miserably. The inadequacy of the expression shows the profoundity of grief. The ~~three-fold~~<sup>(three-fold)</sup> repetition of the word 'break' forming the first line of the poem is alliterative as well as suggestive of the heaviness of the poet's suffering.

The second stanza presents the alienation of the poet. He is cut off from the outside world. He feels lonely. A powerful contrast has been presented here. The poet is sad whereas ~~the~~ fisherman's boy is joyful. He has a sister to play with. The sailor lad is singing on his boat. The loneliness of the poet is brought out by the single alphabet 'O' placed at the beginning of the sentence.

Like the second stanza, the third stanza presents a scene receding in distance. ~~The~~

poet observes the stately ships going on to their haven under the hill; He feels that ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> is isolated from the world. He has no friend to receive. But he wishes to touch the ~~hand~~ <sup>hand</sup> of his dead friend and to hear ~~a~~ <sup>the</sup> voice that is still.

In the concluding stanza, the poet expresses his grief with clever manipulation of tragic rhythms. The world is indifferent to the sorrows of the poet's heart. The poet finds the sea waves breaking at the foot of thy the crags. He achieves a kind of reconciliation between his personal grief and to the real situations, which is clear from the concluding lines of the poem:

"But the tender grace of a day that is dead  
Will never come back to me."

The poet has visualised ~~as~~ his friend as tender grace of a day.

Thus, the poet concentrates his attention on the death of his friend. There is economy of words in the poem. The use of exclamation and apostrophe shows the profound grief of the poet. The poet's emotion is balanced and controlled.