

# After Apple-Picking

Robert Frost

Robert Frost constructs the theme of an end of human's desire by the use of "Apple" as a symbol of desire in the poem "After Apple-Picking". He talks about apple picking which is harvest during the time of winter. In addition, Frost uses "Apple", "winter" and "Sleep" as symbols to represent desire and death, which they change the theme and the direction of the story. In line 1-3 the quote, "My long two-pointed ladder's sticking through a tree toward heaven still," The narrator, points his ladder to the tree, which has apples on it. His action of picking an apple symbolizes his action as he can reach his goal of desire. Moreover, the word "heaven" in the quote also helps clarify the narrator's purpose of picking an apple. "Heaven" symbolizes the final goal of the narrator. Additionally, in the quote "But I am done with apple-picking now. Essence of winter sleep is on the night,"(6-7). He symbolizes "winter" as death because winter is a cold weather which it freezes the surroundings around it. He uses "death" to be a reference that stops his desire. He also mentions "winter" and "sleep" as the factor to stop the narrator from picking the apples. The word "sleep" does not have the same meaning as a normal sleep. The sleep is during the winter. According to the first quote, the narrator tries to reach his desire and he would continue reaching it again and again. However, in the second quote, his desire to reach his goal was stopped by death.