

Do not go gentle into that good night Summary

Writer: Dylan Thomas | Generated: Jan 26, 2026

Summary

Dylan Thomas wrote **“Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night”** for his dying father. In the poem, he asks his father not to accept death quietly but to fight against it with courage and passion.

In the **first stanza**, the poet says that old age should not fade away calmly. Instead, people should live and fight until their last breath. The repeated line **“Rage, rage against the dying of the light”** means we should resist death bravely.

In the **second stanza**, he talks about *wise men*. They know death is natural (“dark is right”), but they still resist it because their words and work could not make enough impact in life.

In the **third stanza**, *good men* regret that their good deeds were not bright enough, so they, too, fight against death, hoping their actions will be remembered.

In the **fourth stanza**, *wild men*—who enjoyed life and chased joy—understand too late that life passes quickly. Yet they also refuse to die quietly.

In the **fifth stanza**, *grave men* (serious and dying men) realize that even weak, blind eyes can shine brightly before death. Their strength inspires us to fight till the end.

In the **last stanza**, the poet directly speaks to his father. He begs him not to give up and to fight bravely even in his last moments. The poem ends with the same repeated lines—*“Do not go gentle into that good night. / Rage, rage against the dying of the light.”*

The poem teaches that we should value life, live fully, and face death with strength and dignity.