

Easter, 1916 Themes

Writer: William Butler Yeats | Generated: Jan 26, 2026

Themes

- **Change and Transformation:** The poem shows how normal people became heroes. Their simple lives changed after they died for their country. Everything feels different now. The poet says, "All changed, changed utterly."
- **Sacrifice and Heroism:** The people in the poem gave their lives in the Easter Rising. Their sacrifice was painful but brave. The poet honors their courage. He calls it a "terrible beauty"—both sad and beautiful.
- **Nationalism and Love for Country:** The rebels loved Ireland. They wanted freedom from British rule. Their deep love for their country made them fight and die. The poem shows strong national feelings.