

The Chimney Sweeper (Songs of Innocence) Symbols

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Symbols

Chimney Sweeper: As a child, the chimney sweeper represents innocence and vulnerability. He was taken into a harsh and corrupt world. Because of the loss of innocence that can result from societal exploitation.

Black Coffins: The image of "black coffins" symbolizes the chimney sweeper's work's ugly and often fatal nature. It reflects the physical and emotional picture of these children.

"Crying 'weep! 'weep! 'weep! 'weep!': The repeated cry of " 'weep! 'weep! 'weep! 'weep!" is not just a description of the chimney sweeper's work but also a symbol of child labor. It reflects their inability to express their suffering and unhappiness openly.

Angel: The angel in the poem symbolizes hope, salvation, and a way out of the misery of the chimney sweepers.

Tom Dacre's Hair: Tom Dacre's hair is a powerful symbol of youthful innocence. After making him involved in the chimney gang, his hair was shaved. This hair-shaving represents a loss of innocence and child abuse in industrialized London.