HOME BURIAL

-ROBERT BROWNING

• COURSE TITLE : AMERICAN LITERATURE

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• UNIT : I (POETRY)

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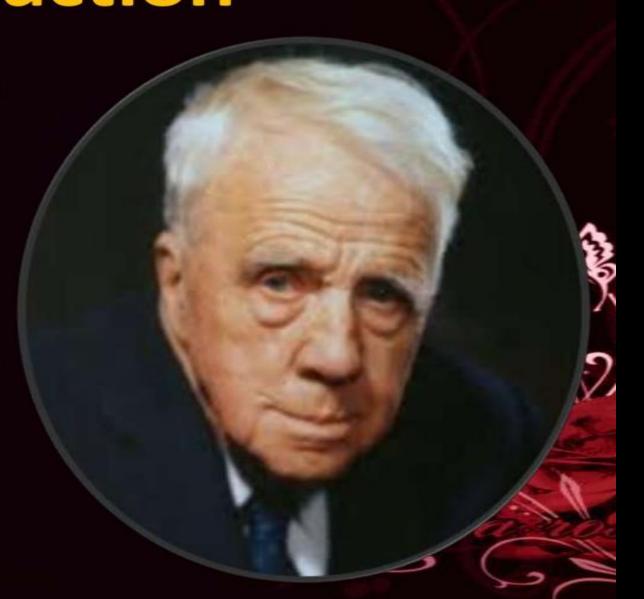
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Introduction

 Robert Lee Frost was a great American poet.

 He is highly regarded for his realistic depictions of rural life.

 'Home Burial' is one of the greatest creation of him.



<u>Form</u>

- Dramatic or pastoral lyric poem in the terms of form, using free-from dialogue rather than strict rhythmic schemes.
- Frost generally uses five stressed syllables in each line and divides stanzas in terms of lines of speech.
- Frost splits the iambic pattern in lines18 and 19, which both emphasizes the couple's relative, positions physically and provides a graphic illustration of just how far apart they are.

<u>Summary</u>

 In this poem Frost described an anxious conversation between a rural husband and wife whose child has recently died.

 Wife is standing and looking at her child's grave through the window.

 It is a poem about the love of a mother to her child. She has lost her all hopes.

- She becomes very excited and sorrowful but her husband is very normal.
- He think that, it is the rule of nature and nobody can escape it.
- So, he is very easy and normal but his wife does not agree with him.
- She does not want to stay with him in this house because his husband has buried her child in this house.

Development of Thought

- The death of a young child
- The death of a marriage
- The title "Home Burial", can be read as a tragic double entendre.
- The death of the child is the substance of the couple's problems, the larger clash that destroys the marriage is the couple's inability to interconnect with each other.
- The husband is more accepting of the natural cycle of life and death in general. (by digging the grave for his child)

Setting

 The setting of the poem is a staircase with a door at the bottom and a window at the top.

 The wife stands at the top of the stairs, directly in front of the window overlooking the graveyard

 The husband stands at the bottom of the stairs, looking up at her.



The theme of 'Home Burial' by Robert Frost is the misapprehension between a husband and a wife.

Critical Appreciation

- The behavior of a man and a women.
- The women are emotional.
- Example:
 - Shakespeare says, 'Frailty thy name is woman.'
- The author has to announce that, a woman is not a woman but a mother.

- So the wife of the husband is very sad for the death of her child.
- Actually it is not the fault of the wife to misunderstand her husband; it is the nature of a lady.
- On the other hand, a man has two powers; one is emotion and another is action.
- Husband tries to control his wife with his emotion but when he fails he applies force or action.