

I WORRIED

by Mary Oliver



I worried a lot. Will the garden grow, will the rivers
flow in the right direction, will the earth turn
as it was taught, and if not how shall
I correct it?

Was I right, was I wrong, will I be forgiven,
can I do better?

Will I ever be able to sing, even the sparrows
can do it and I am, well,
hopeless.

Is my eyesight fading or am I just imagining it,
am I going to get rheumatism,
lockjaw, dementia?



Finally I saw that worrying had come to nothing.
And gave it up. And took my old body
and went out into the morning,
and sang.



Reflection



What problem concerns the author?

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What did the author finally understand?

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Do you think the author's conclusion is right?

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Can worrying be a good thing or is it just bad?

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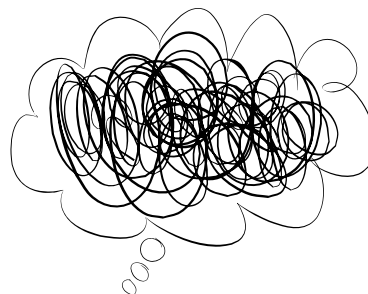
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Name: _____

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THINGS

I WORRY ABOUT



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Reflection



What problem concerns the author?

Her problem is that she worries about everything

She worries about her garden, getting old, nature

What did the author finally understand?

She finally understood that worrying doesn't get you
anywhere. It doesn't help you.

Do you think the author's conclusion is right?

The author stopped worrying. I'm not sure if she is
correct. I think it is impossible to stop worrying.

Can worrying be a good thing or is it just bad?

It depends. Worrying over small stuff is not good but
if you worry about important things, it can get you
energized to get rid of them, solve the problem.

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