Sandy Hook Elementary





This image depicts a rose memorial for the Sandy Hook Elementary School victims. They were killed when a shooter opened fire in the school on the 14th of December, 2012. Photo by Alexisrael, online via Wikimedia Commons. License: CC BY-SA 3.0

Sorrow makes us all children again, destroys all differences of intellect. The wisest knows nothing.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Journal Entry From Emerson in His Journals, page 277 January 30, 1842

It is too soon for our story about the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary. It will come later, after a time of reflection.

Meanwhile, we are providing links to materials which may be helpful (such as a student-written tribute to the now-stilled voices at Virginia Tech, a dramatized chapter from *Little Women* [when Beth died], grief-counseling resources and poetry).

A Guide for Parents, Caregivers and Teachers - US Health & Human Services

Talking to Children - American Academy of Pediatrics

Voices from Virginia Tech

Little Women, by Louisa May Alcott, dramatized Chapter 40 ("Valley of the Shadow")

"Look for the Helpers" - Mr. Rogers

How to Talk about Violence against Kids - U of Minnesota

Catastrophic Mass Violence - National Child Traumatic Stress Network

Talking to Children about Death - National Institutes of Health

Limit Access to TV News - National Education Association

After a Loved One Dies - How Children Grieve

Security Steps at Schools - Education Week

"How healthily their feet upon the floor" - Edna St Vincent Millay

"Do Not Stand at my Grave and Weep" - Mary Elizabeth Frye (previously anonymous)

Their Journey's Just Begun (Author Unknown)

Don't think of them as gone away, their journey's just begun. Life holds so many facets, this Earth is only one.

Just think of them as resting from the sorrows and the tears, in a place of warmth and comfort, where there are no days and years.

Think how they must be wishing that we could know, today, how nothing but our sadness can really pass away.

And think of them as living in the hearts of those they touched for nothing loved is ever lost and they were loved so much.

Credits:

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Sandy-Hook-Elementary

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Sandy-Hook-Elementary

Media Stream



Ralph Waldo Emerson - Grieving Father

Ralph Waldo Emerson, long-respected as one of America's great thinkers, lost many loved ones throughout his life.

- His father died of stomach cancer two weeks after Emerson's eighth birthday.
- \bullet His first wife (Ellen Tucker Emerson) died of $\underline{\text{tuberculosis}}$ (TB) at age twenty less than eighteen months after their marriage.
- At 31, Emerson lost his brother Edward also to TB.
- When his oldest child a son, called "Waldo" became ill with <u>scarlet fever</u>, he died, suddenly, at the age of five.
- Shortly before his 59th birthday, Emerson lost his close friend <u>Henry David Thoreau</u> (who died at 44).

The day after "my little Waldo" died of scarlet fever, Emerson wrote these words in his journal: Sorrow makes us all children again,

destroys all differences of intellect.

The wisest knows nothing.

Shortly before his 79th birthday, Ralph Waldo Emerson caught a severe cold. It led to his death on April 27, 1882. He is <u>buried at the Sleepy Hollow Cemetery</u> in Concord, Massachusetts.

We can review most of his writings online, thanks to <u>RWE.org</u> (Ralph Waldo Emerson.org). Portrait of Ralph Waldo Emerson - image number LC-DIG-pga-04133 - online courtesy U.S. Library of Congress.

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Ralph-Waldo-Emerson-Grieving-Father