

HOPE IS THE THING WITH FEATHERS

Department of HSS, JIIT, Noida

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

About the Poet

Poem

Analysis of the Poem

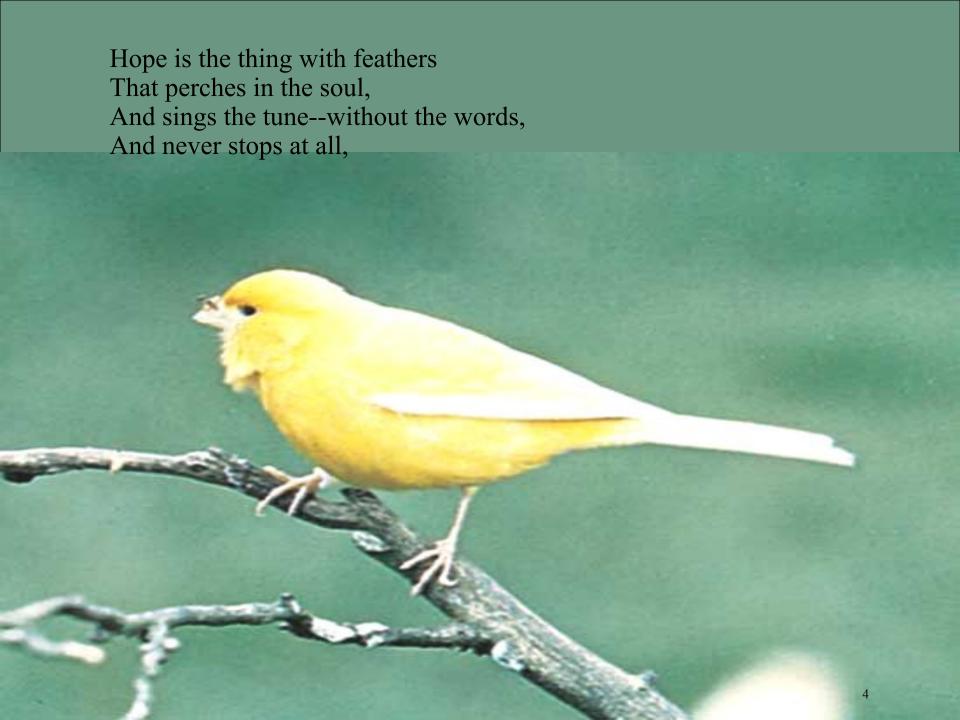
Resources to be consulted for further reading:

https://www.litcharts.com/poetry/emily-dickinson/hope-is-the-thing-with-feathers

ABOUT THE POET

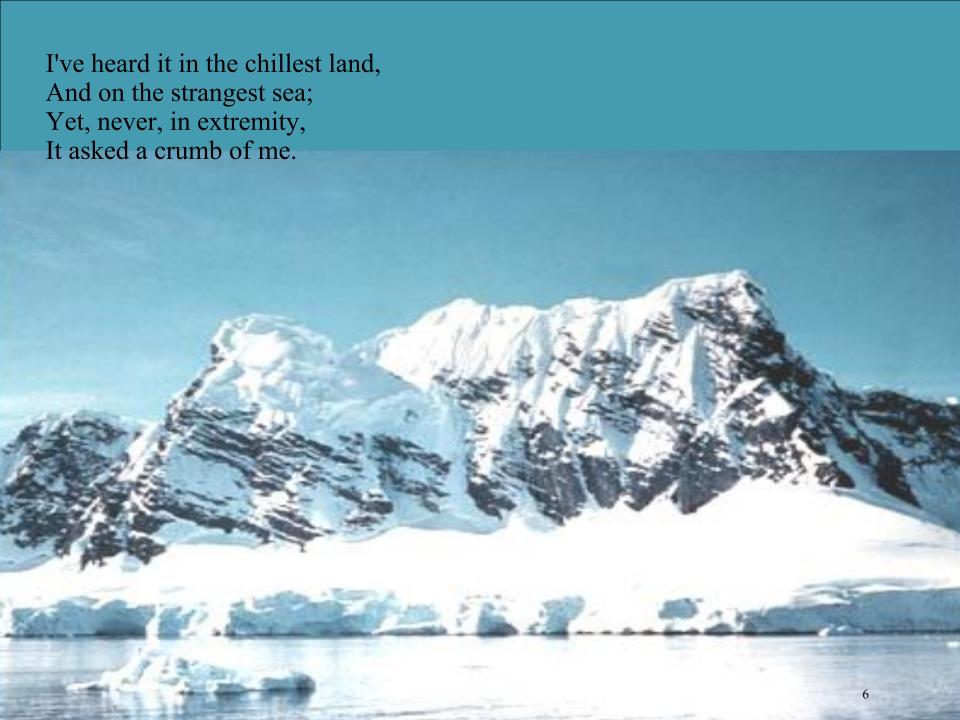
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_oyZYIO48u4

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzFIZnhmt3k



And sweetest in the gale is heard; And sore must be the storm That could abash the little bird That kept so many warm.





Hope is the thing with feathers (line1)

That perches on the soul" (line 2)

And sings the tune--without the words" (line 3)

"And never stops at all" (line 4)

Hope is just like a bird
it's nest is our heart, self
Hope doesn't't need to speak
Hope is always eternally present.

"AND SWEETEST IN THE GALE IS HEARD;" (LINE 5)

Hope is most welcome in the hardest times; In the worst time, it comforts us and cheers us

"AND SORE MUST BE THE STORM (LINE 6) THAT COULD ABASH THE LITTLE BIRD (LINE 7) THAT KEPT SO MANY WARM" (LINE 8)

The bad times, conflicts, adversities are all defeated with presence of hope.

If only possible, they would have thwarted it

That which had kept so many people going, inspiring all to never to give up

"I'VE HEARD IT IN THE CHILLEST LAND," (LINE 9) "AND ON THE STRANGEST SEA;" (LINE 10)

Hope exists even in the harshest of places,

And in the most distant lands

No person is untouched by hope.

No place can be without hope

"YET, NEVER, IN EXTREMITY," (LINE 11) "IT ASKED A CRUMB OF ME." (LINE 12)

But hope has never, in the worst of times

Required anything from me.

Hope only gives us, never getting anything in return.

Meanings

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gale (line 5) = (n.) strong wind storm
"...and sweetest in the gale is heard..."
sore (line 6) = (adj.) painful; distressing
"...and sore must be the storm..."
abash (line 7) = (v.) humble; weaken
"...that could abash the little bird..."
strangest (line 10) = (adj.) most foreign
"...I've heard it...on the strangest sea..."
extremity (line 11) = (n.) farthest point; danger
"...never, in extremity, it asked a crumb of me."
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Structure and Sound Elements

Three quatrains

- (1) Hope is the thing with feathers
- (2) That perches in the soul,
- (3) And sings the tune--without the words,
- (4) And never stops at all,
- (5) And sweetest in the gale is heard;
- (6) And sore must be the storm
- (7) That could abash the little bird
- (8) That kept so many warm.
- (9) I've heard it in the chillest land,
- (10) And on the strangest sea;
- (11) Yet, never, in extremity,
- (12) It asked a crumb of me.

Rhyme Scheme

В

B (slant rhyme)

E D

LITERARY DEVICES

Alliteration

Line 3: And sings the tune--<u>w</u>ithout the <u>w</u>ords

Line 10: And on the <u>s</u>trangest <u>s</u>ea;

- Personification = Hope perches, sings, and asks.
- Assonance = sore, storm, and warm. The "o" sound suggests the "long" trying times in life.
- Anaphora: Lines 7 & 8

The poem is in itself an Extended Metaphor

THEMES

Hope

Survival

Optimism

CONCLUSION



Dickinson's poem optimistically suggests that the song of hope can be found in everyone; it is always there when it is most needed.

The speaker suggests that no special effort is needed to feel hope; it naturally comes to those who need it most.

LET US THINK:

- 1) What is Hope symbolic of?
- 2) is the rhyme scheme of last stanza.
- 3) What is the conflict defeated by Hope, being highlighted in this poem
- a) Man & Society
- b)Man & Self
- c)Man & Nature
- d)All of the Above
 - 4) If Bird is the protagonist, who will be the antagonist?
 - 5) Think of a modern analogous situation from today's worlds, where this poem is most aptly applicable.

SOURCES:

https://www.slideserve.com/aram/hope-is-the-thing-with-feathers

https://www.slideshare.net/LucianaViceconti/emily-dickinson-hope-is-the-thing-with-feathers

https://vdocuments.net/by-emily-dickinson-hope-is-the-thing-with-feathers.html

https://www.litcharts.com/poetry/emily-dickinson/hope-is-the-thing-with-feathers

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_oyZYIO48u4

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzFIZnhmt3k