

<sup>1</sup>what if a much of a which of a wind  
gives the truth to summer's lie;  
bloodies with dizzying leaves the sun  
and yanks immortal stars awry?  
<sup>2</sup>Blow king to beggar and queen to seem  
<sup>3</sup>(blow friend to fiend:blow space to time)  
<sup>4</sup>--when skies are hanged and oceans drown  
the single secret will still be man

what if a keen of a lean wind flays  
screaming hills with sleet and snow:  
strangles valleys by ropes of thing  
and stifles forests in white ago?  
Blow hope to terror;blow seeing to blind  
(blow pity to envy and soul to mind)  
--whose hearts are mountains, roots are trees  
it's they shall cry hello to the spring

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<sup>1</sup>The format of this poem is significant to spring because it relates to the actual date that spring "begins". Spring starts on March 21st. This poem is three stanzas long, representing the third month of the year--March. However, there are 24 lines total, not 21. But notice that there are exactly three lines that have a dash before them. Use the math and you will find out that there are 21, with those three subtracted. -Lizzy C.

<sup>2</sup>The repeated "blow" in this poem is always capitalized, and all rhyme in three stanzas: "Blow king to beggar", "Blow hope to terror", "Blow soon to never". The constant capitalization of the word "blow" shows that Cummings wanted to emphasize on the meaning of the word into his poem. The word is significant and adds to the meaning of the poem because the word blow means "a sudden shock", which could be referring to the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I think it relates since in this poem Cummings is predicting society's irresponsible use of technology. -Aime Ortiz

<sup>3</sup>In the poem, the 6th line of each stanza is in parentheses and includes the word "blow", as well as two pairs of contrasting words (friend and fiend, space and time). I think the word "blow" is meant to represent a metaphorical gust of pure wind that has been forgotten due to all the man-made aspects of society that have brushed away any sort of former appreciation for nature. Therefore, our world has in essence been turned "upside-down" (from a natural one to an industrial one), but despite these alterations, nothing has been changed and everything is still in its original place (hence the comparisons between seemingly opposite words).

-Marco Diaz-Lundquist

<sup>4</sup>The indentations at the 7th, 15th and 22nd lines show that ee cummings cares more for that statement than the preceding and following lines. He believes that humans are messing things up, and the indented lines give narration to nature, the preserved and beautiful parts of life. He obviously gives more care to those areas.--Simone

what if a dawn of a doom of a dream  
bites this universe in two,  
peels forever out of his grave  
and sprinkles nowhere with me and you?  
Blow soon to never and never to twice  
(blow life to isn't: blow death to was)  
--all nothing's only our hugest home;  
the most who die,the more we live.