

In Flanders Fields

John McCrae, died 1918

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
 That mark our place; and in the sky
 The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
 Loved and were loved, and now we lie
 In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
 The torch; be yours to hold it high.
 If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
 In Flanders fields.

Questions

1. Who is the speaker of this poem and to whom is the poem addressed?
2. What message is the speaker giving?
3. What does the poet mean when he writes, "If ye break faith with us who die/ We shall not sleep, though Poppies grow/ In Flanders field"?
4. Describe ways in which we keep faith with the dead in everyday life.