

Loss Memory and Control in Elizabeth Bishop's One Art

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Three statements that take my interest in the poem "One Art" are listed below:

1: The art of losing isn't hard to master;

I am in love with the idea of the message Elizabeth wants to convey through this poem, specifically through this line: If we excel in only one thing, which is the art of losing things, then nothing can restrain us from moving forward and gaining more things that are waiting for us. (Bishop, 1976) But, for that purpose, we have to master the art of losing objects. It is also a natural phenomenon. If we take the example from the natural surroundings by considering the tree as the master of this art every year, we lose old leaves and replace them with new ones, and it brings no disaster. So, it's nothing to cry about the lost things because some things are meant to be lost in the first place because they intend to do so. By learning this art, we learn the art of acceptance, resignation, the art of accepting failure and never losing hope.

The speaker wants to tell us that it is of no use to cry over spilt milk or become heartbroken over little or sometimes larger losses because if we waste time on our losses to find them back, then it becomes difficult for us to gain something better, something more worthy. But, according to her, only those who have the spirit of warriors and the courage of mountains can understand this phenomenon and accept it.

The art of losing is not an easy thing, but once we become master of it, we come to know that everything is not meant to stay forever. We can tolerate losses only when we get habitual of losing things of little worth. The speaker used the terms art and master, which shows that the art of losing things is a skill which comes with practice and makes us master once we learn this skill. It becomes natural for us to cope with all the problems, difficulties, defeats, and failures that retrain our path towards solutions, easiness, achievements, and success.

2: lose something every day, accept the fluster of lost door keys, the hour badly spent

Starting from the little everyday losses and practising patience over losing them, neither losing hope nor tolerance, we surely learn the art of losing. In the beginning, it is difficult, but never for a master. That is how we become masters by losing things from everyday life, such as *door keys* and *a badly*

spent hour. Until we don't learn the art of losing things and do not master it, we cannot learn the art of gaining things, and if we do not learn the art of accepting failure, then we will become unable to handle greater success afterwards in our lives.

These losses happen in our everyday lives, but when we face them every day, then they become less intense to bother. But, again, as we encounter these things daily, then we become used to them, which leads us to become masters at the art of losing.

Until we don't learn the art of losing things and not mastering them, we cannot learn the art of gaining things, and if we do not learn the art of accepting failure, then we will become unable to handle greater success afterwards in our lives. With difficulty comes ease; for every problem, there is a solution; for every failure, there is a solution. So, we should not lose our hope. We should become brave enough to face every disaster that is not a disaster because losing something is not a disaster for a survivor.

3: ~ Even losing you (the joking voice, a gesture I love) I shan't lied it's evident the art of losing's not too hard to master though it may look like (Write it!) like a disaster

This stanza is the essence of the whole poem "One Art" Can someone be lighthearted about a loss? (Costello, 1991) These lines tell us all as the speaker opens up by uncovering the fact no one becomes truly a master of losing things because the loss of some things around which our whole life revolves feels like a disaster, but we become used to losing things that even some big losses never felt like the disasters. I admire the thing she mentions, though it is too hard to master this art. A master halfheartedly conceals the sadness or disheartened towards this kind of loss by saying that this is not a "disaster" in spite of burdening his heart and soul for this kind of loss.

In these lines, the speaker says the biggest loss in someone's life is the loss of loved ones and the feelings we shared with them because lost material things make spaces for new things, but losing sentiments, emotions, feelings, and attachments, let's say abstract things have no replacement to filled. It is too hard to beat them, but if we show courage and bravery, we can even face this loss because, in the end, we have to survive alone, so we need to master the art of losing honestly.

In my opinion, whatever life offers us, we should taste it without being afraid of losing it. This is necessary not only for our survival but also for our inner peace, and the art of losing keeps us motivated. Not every disaster is a disaster until we don't surrender before it. Some disasters, like losing loved ones, are nearly equal to disasters, but in the end, it depends on how we face such disasters.

References

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