

## **Riders to the Sea By John Millington Synge (Part 2)**

**Q/ Mention the symbols in the Riders to the Sea then state their meaning.**

- 1- The White boards:** They symbolize the coffin that refers to Bartley's death.
- 2- Robe:** It symbolizes Bartley's death, since it is usually used to lower down a coffin into the grave. Also, it is used as a tool of execution.
- 3- Holly water:** It symbolizes purification and traditional Catholicism, it stand in a contrast with powerful water of the sea.
- 4- Nora:** She symbolizes the voice of the Catholic church.
- 5- Anchor:** It is seen as symbol of hope, safety, and stability. Also, it is part of the Christian tradition.
- 6- knot:** It refers to the family bond, it refers to the hardships that the family have been in it together.
- 7- Black feet:** It symbolizes the sacrifice to provide food for the family just like Bartley.

**Q/ Comment on this line “Herself does be saying her prayers half through the night, and Almighty God won't leave her destitute,” says he, “with no son living.”**

This line is a conversation between Nora and Cathleen in the Riders to the Sea By John Millington Synge. In a cottage in Aran Island, Ireland. Thus, Nora feels sorry for her mother who is left with not a single male in the family. She says that the young priest would convince Bartley from not going to the sea because it is dangerous and he is the last any t living son in the family. So, Nora says that God isn't cruel to leave their mother without any living son. This line refers to the theme of fate regarding the sea as source of life and death.

**Q/ Comment on this line “What can we want (more) than that? No man at all can be living for ever, and we must be satisfied”**

This line is said by the mother; Maurya in the Riders to the Sea By John Millington Synge. In a cottage in Aran Island, Ireland. In this line Maurya ends her war with the sea and accepts the fate of being left without any living male in the family. Also, it is presented death as the natural end of every living creature and no one should fight it, but to accept it as normal end in this life.

Nevertheless, this line refers to the theme of fate and the theme of clash between Catholicism and Paganism.

**Q/ Comment on this line “It was a hundred horses, or thousand horses you had: Itself, what is the price of a thousand of horses against a son.”**

This line is said by Maurya to her son in the Riders to the Sea By John Millington Synge. In a cottage in Aran Island, Ireland. Thus, Maurya tries to stop her son from going to the sea, but he justifies saying that he would make good profits (money) by selling horses. Maurya tries to convince his that life is more valuable than any wealth (money)

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