

## Growing Up

Growing up is a part of life and can be an obstacle or a piece of cake."Life Doesn't Frighten Me" by Maya Angelou and "On Turning Ten" by Billy Collins have very different opinions about growing up. One poem is about a girl who is ready to face the challenges of growing up, and another is about a boy who does not want to lose his imagination. In both stories, the boy and girl both think a lot about growing up and how they feel about it. The girl wants to move on and the boy wants to stay young and have a childish life.

The first poem "Life Doesn't Frighten Me" has a girl who is ready to be an adult and face the challenges of adulthood. On line 3 and many more lines the speaker says "Life doesn't frighten me at all". This shows that the girl is brave and confident about her life. Life doesn't frighten her. In addition, on lines one and two it says " Shadows on the wall, noises down the hall, life doesn't frighten me at all". The girl does not get frightened easily so she is prepared for future events. The speaker in "Life Doesn't Frighten Me" is prepared and ready to move on in life.

The second poem, "On Turning Ten" is about a boy who wants to be a child forever and does not want to mature. He wants to keep his childish imagination. On lines one and two the speaker says " The whole idea of it makes me feel like I'm coming down with something". This is a simile that expresses what the speaker feels like. He does not want to turn ten because he does not want to feel grown up and responsible. Along with this, the speaker says on line 25, "this is the beginning of sadness,I say to myself". This shows that the speaker is depressed about growing up because he can not have much of an imagination. The speaker in " On Turning Ten" is depressed about growing up. He wants to be a little boy forever.

All together, both these stories teach us that growing up is a part of life, but one poem has a negative approach and another with a positive approach.I don't want to be frightened about life like the speaker in "Life Doesn't Frighten Me" but I want to not have to worry about everything an adult has to worry about. I want to be comforted by my mom or dad from

time to time. I know that people need to be prepared to face life, but we all need to be comforted from the worries of it.