

# FAVORITE POEMS TAMUK

## DEATH IS NOTHING AT ALL

Henry Scott-Holland, 1847-1918

*Headnote: When I was twelve, I lost my best friend. Life was hard and I did not know if or when it was going to get easier. Turns out time heals and as I grew older, I realized that I still have my life. Everyone's life continued after the passing of Jennifer and that is just what happens. Though she died my relationship with her did not; there was no need to end things. She will forever be the same person in my heart, and she will always be with those who love her. I hope we all see the ones we miss again. I say time is a continuation of nothing, time will forever be here even after we are gone because time stops for nothing at all.*

Samantha Landaverde  
Psychology Student

Death is nothing at all.  
It does not count.  
I have only slipped away into the next room.  
Nothing has happened.

Everything remains exactly as it was.  
I am I, and you are you,  
and the old life that we lived so fondly together is untouched, unchanged.  
Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.

Call me by the old familiar name.  
Speak of me in the easy way which you always used.  
Put no difference into your tone.  
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.

Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes that we enjoyed together.  
Play, smile, think of me, pray for me.  
Let my name be ever the household word that it always was.  
Let it be spoken without an effort, without the ghost of a shadow upon it.

Life means all that it ever meant.  
It is the same as it ever was.  
There is absolute and unbroken continuity.  
What is this death but a negligible accident?

Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?  
I am but waiting for you, for an interval,  
somewhere very near,  
just round the corner.

All is well.  
Nothing is hurt; nothing is lost.  
One brief moment and all will be as it was before.  
How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting when we meet again!

*from Henry Scott-Holland. Death Is Nothing At All. Souvenir Press Limited, 1987.*

<https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/death-is-nothing-at-all-by-henry-scott-holland>