

I Heard a Fly Buzz - When I Died
by Emily Dickinson

**I heard a Fly buzz - when I died -
The Stillness in the Room
Was like the Stillness in the Air -
Between the Heaves of Storm -**

**The Eyes around - had wrung them dry -
And Breaths were gathering firm
For that last Onset - when the King
Be witnessed - in the Room -**

**I willed my Keepsakes - Signed away
What portion of me be
Assignable - and then it was
There interposed a Fly -**

**With Blue - uncertain - stumbling Buzz -
Between the light - and me -
And then the Windows failed - and then
I could not see to see -**

Source: Emily Dickinson, "I Heard a Fly Buzz - When I Died," *Poems by Emily Dickinson*, Roberts Brothers, 1896.