



Emily Webb
From *Our Town*
By Thornton Wilder

Age Range: Adult, Young-Adult

Style: Dramatic, Classical

Monologue:

“Oh, Mama, just look at me one minute as though you really saw me. Mama! Fourteen years have gone by! – I’m dead! – You’re a grandmother, Mama – I married George Gibbs, Mama! - Wally’s dead too. – Mama! His appendix burst on a camping trip to Crawford Notch. We felt just terrible about it, don’t you remember? – But, just for a moment now we’re all together – Mama, just for a moment let’s be happy – Let’s look at one another! I can’t! I can’t go on! It goes so fast. We don’t have time to look at one another. I didn’t realize. So all that was going on and we never noticed! Take me back – up the hill – to my grave. But first: Wait! One more look! Good-bye, Goodbye, world. Goodbye, Grover’s Corners? Mama and Papa. Goodbye to clocks ticking? and Mama’s sunflowers. And food and coffee. And new-ironed dresses and hot baths? and sleeping and waking up. Oh, earth you’re too wonderful for anyone to realize you! Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it – every, every minute.”

Play Synopsis:

The play follows the lives of the Webbs and the Gibbs families, and their children, George and Emily, as they grow up, fall in love, get married, and experience death. The play is set in three acts that take place a few years apart. The play is known for its minimalist staging, with little scenery and props. The stage manager is a central character who addresses the audience, brings in guest lecturers, and sometimes fills in as an actor. The play explores themes of love, life, and death, and asks questions about the meaning of these things. It also explores the shared humanity of all people, and how our lives are made up of work, school, family, and eventually death.

Read the Play Here:

<https://irp.cdn-website.com/b5cf95f0/files/uploaded/ourtownpdf.pdf>