

Poem written at the end of the Great War – 1918

Analyse the poem and work out what the key idea is in each verse. What does it reveal about the Great War and the men that fought in it?

1. Germany were against freedom and wanted to destroy it...

3.

5.

7.

9.

**A mother's memories
Christmas,
1918**

Four years ago
My only son
Faced Freedom's foe:
Too true to shun
The modern Hun.

Three years ago
That gallant son
Still smote the foe
With honest gun:
And laurels won.

Two years ago
The boy was here;
He left the foe
For Christmas cheer:
No pain or tear.

One year ago
I lost my son –
A shrapnel blow,
His task was done:
For right begun

On foreign soil,
Amidst the brave
Who rest from toil,
A hero's grave
His dust will save,

Some disobeyed
Stern duty's call:
At home they stayed,
Let brothers fall:
What cravens all!

But I am glad –
Though sorely hit –
My only lad
Had soul of grit:
Well did his bit.

This Christmastide
I do not weep,
For Christ who died
Now lives to keep
The blest who sleep.

So tho' life's way
Is lone for me,
I shall one day
Rejoice to see
My Love who's free.

**W. Baker,
Stafford.**

2.

4.

6. Some did not fight and were disliked because of this...

8.