

Samuel Williamson

P2

To An Athlete Dying Young by A. E. Housman

tone - happy/sad

a The time you won your town the race
a We chaired you through the market-
place;
b Man and boy stood cheering by,
b And home we brought you shoulder-
high.

The track runner won the game so the people are celebrating in his home like it was a parade.

put on their shoulders

a To-day, the road all runners come,
a Shoulder-high we bring you home,
b And set you at your threshold down,
b Townsman of a stiller town.

track runner

The track runner won his game and they celebrating

doorway

a Smart lad, to slip betimes away
a From fields where glory does not stay
b And early though the laurel grows
b It withers quicker than the rose.

I think its talking about people who are not alive

laurel - symbol of victory

personification

simile

a Eyes the shady night has shut
a Cannot see the record cut,
b And silence sounds no worse than
b cheers
b After earth has stopped the ears:

personification

to make a loud noise

boy of xouth

a Now you will not swell the rout
a Of lads that wore their honours out,
b Runners whom renown outran
b And the name died before the man.

You will not enjoy the loud noise

famous runners who outran others

a So set, before its echoes fade,
a The fleet foot on the sill of shade,
b And hold to the low lintel up
b The still-defended challenge-cup.

lintel (lin + l) n. horizontal bar above a door

a And round that early-laurelled head
a Will flock to gaze the strengthless dead,
b And find unwithered on its curls
b The garland briefer than a girl's

simile