

# AN OLD WOMAN

## Summary of the poem

An ~~old~~ old beggare woman catches hold of the sleeve of the speaker and insists on getting a fifty paise coin in alms. She tags along with him and promises that she will take him to horse shoes temple. If he tells her that he has already seen the temple, she hobbles along with him and catches hold of his shirt tightly and again insists on getting a fifty paise coin. She will not let him go. Like all other



old woman, she too sticks to him like a burr. He teeters around and wants to get rid of her. In order to end this useless activity, he tells her firmly to leave him. When she remarks "what else can an old woman do' on hills as wretched as these".

He looks right at the sky in contemplation. As he looks on her, he finds that the cracks that begin around her eyes have spread beyond her skin. The decay of the

of the old woman stands there alone.

And he is reddeed to the small change

in here hand.