**Carpe Diem Poem Choice Board: “**[**Days**](https://pub.hai.haus/literature/days)**”**

What is the overarching theme or message of the piece, and how do you know?

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| The poem “Days” by Billy Collins is about the finiteness of our lives, we know this through the description of “hoping to add one more. Just another Wednesday” |

What kinds of images or symbols are used in the poem, and how do they portray the central idea of the piece?

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| Then the author uses the image of a stack of dishes which is soon to fall, and how entertainers perch “on the top of a tall ladder” trying to add one more on top. |

What interesting things do you notice about the word choice of the poem? How does it affect the piece?

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| One of the pieces of word choice which stand out the most is the “thick *masonry* of ice,” which compares ice to the careful craft of laying brick and concrete. |

What interesting things do you notice about the structure of the poem (how the poem is put together from beginning to end, including syntax–punctuation, line length, repetition, beginnings and endings?

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| Excluding the start, the alternating stanzas lack punctuation which emphasizes the pacing of how days change pace. |

What makes this poem similar and/or different (choose one) from other poems that you have read in the past?

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| I don’t think I’ve seen the alternating punctuation, nor have I read one about the impending doom of death, because - well - that’s not a worry of mine. |