

## Personification "One Solitary Leaf"

On the second story of the apartment, she could see the remnants of Summer in the green foliage of the shrubs and trees. One tree in particular was of special interest to her. For it wasn't long, as Fall lay a terminal hush upon the life-force of nature's flowering plant life, that one by one, leaves began to turn color, die, and fall from their lofty perches. As time drifted by, the pile of disembodied pieces from the trees gathered in clusters of death on the ground. So much so that after several weeks, only a few leaves remained. Eventually, only one solitary leaf stayed firmly attached to the branch. One leaf on one branch of one tree; that was all.

As time passed, she noticed that come wind or rain, that leaf stayed with her through it all. It would not die. It became her comfort; a reminder that some things endure. But she knew that even this strong and bold; yet withered and old leaf, would not hold on forever. And one morning, she came outside to see her true friend gone. He finally had died and left her side.

The winter was long and unforgiving for her. There were many times she thought she could not hold on until Spring. But then came the first few warm days of that same Spring. Upon climbing her tree, she saw new leaves budding forth from dead branches. Her Winter had been so long she'd forgotten hope, and the memory of her tough companion who'd shown her it's possible to weather the storms of nature. And now here were new friends to complete the cycle. For even as all things in nature die, they create new things in nature's life. A complete cycle of life, to despair, then hope, and life again.

### Application Questions

1. Discuss your interpretation of what this piece of prose means?

Hint: Look for "suspicious" words that may have double meaning. Look for "person like qualities" in non-living things.

2. Write your own short, fictional story illustrating the literary concept of personification.