

**Life to Death, Death to Life**  
by Lola-Peach Martins in response to Rectory Lane Cemetery

**Life to death, death to life**  
**Think about the environment and atmosphere**  
**People, graves, lives fold and unfold**  
**Tombs, stones, trees**  
**Sometimes, warm breeze**

**See the names, families**  
**Isolation, or unity**  
**The lost, the found**  
**Many things all around**  
**Skulls, bones beneath the ground**

**The elite, the desolate, the fallen**  
**The strong the brave**  
**The rich, humble and meek**  
**The poor, and the weak**  
**Or so to speak**

**The known, the unknown**  
**Questions about things they owned**  
**It's all done now**  
**Do not bemoan**  
**There is no more pain, no groan**

**But, there are sweet smelling flowers**  
**Shades of colours**  
**Green, yellow, and brown grass**  
**All have passed**  
**Buried here, after breathing their last**

**Powers, all the works, and hours**  
**Summer or winter time**  
**The Sun, the bright stars**  
**The moon at night**  
**Glowing, the full light**

Autumn leaves  
Bundles, sheaves  
Spring hues  
Morning dues  
Did any have the opportunity to choose?

But, there are characters, dramas  
Intriguing stories  
The more you look, the more there is  
Strength, joy, care  
Sadness, kindness everywhere

Meaningful words, images  
Descriptions could fill a thousand pages  
Difference, movements  
More trees, amazing trees  
Whispers, at times sounds of bees

Secrets, treasures, pleasures  
See the fallen over here  
Hidden beauty over there  
This thing called Social history  
They all share

The Masonry's works  
See all the traces  
Bring living people into the spaces  
A garden of remembrance  
That's where this subliminal place is

The Cemetery, from life to death, death to **life**.