

life and the impact it can have on living life in a more aware, conscious, liberal, free, humble, and grateful state. I did experience the strengths of individual and collective prayer and the creation of meaning through recognizing the value of life on a deeper, spiritual, and de-materialized level. I believe that the experience provided me as well as my daughter with a re-defined consciousness about meaning in life, a deeper connection with others, and the possibility of transforming negative emotions, pain, and suffering—at least to a degree—into a growing joy and happiness of being alive.

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## To a Branch Felled by Ice (in memoriam: L.L.)

**Claude Barbre**—Chicago School of Professional Psych.

Now that a sheer completion rests  
upon your leafy radius  
and maps a last diurnal round  
where living continuities  
to summer's greening way must go  
beyond the slant of window light,  
so must our severed certainties  
amend the rites of measurement  
for what endures. For what endures  
when ice and stone become the stars  
you long to shoulder still, and earth  
prepares your countryside for sleep  
with drifting shades of eiderdown  
and silences that softly speak  
in silences that sing to sleep?  
Into your changes now abide  
where darkness shines like ember blues  
of snow at dusk that warm the dead  
until their time. See how we shine  
to give them life again. See how  
we shine as though our heavy arms

will lift and reach to hold again  
this broken world by letting go.

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## **Dying (Not Only) in Times of COVID-19: Transfer of Dying Patients, its Causes, and Possible Remedies**

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*Abstract: Death and dying are often not discussed openly in many societies; this has (negative) impacts on the way individuals are treated at the end of their lives. Using Germany as an example, it will be shown that the transfer of dying persons between different nursing and health care facilities leads to a deterioration of the quality of life of dying persons. Causes for the transfers will be identified and some indications for possible improvements will be provided.*

*Keywords: death, dying, end-of-life-transfers, ethics, Germany, quality-of-life*

### **Introduction: Dying as Part of Life**

Whoever wants to think or write about death can hardly get past the writings of the ancient philosophers, and then finds himself in the middle of the history of philosophy, which is still being pushed forward today. In his letter to Menoeceus, Epicurus writes: “Death, therefore, the most awful of evils, is nothing to us, seeing that, when we are, death is not come, and, when death is come, we are not. It is nothing, then, either to the living or to the dead, for with the living it is not and the dead exist no longer.” It should be emphasized that this history encompasses more than just European