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### Spirits of the Fallen Reflection

The song called “Spirits of the Fallen” in the Anthology of Chinese literature describes a battle that has taken place. At the end of this battle, it goes into detail about how people fought bravely and were slain. In the text it says: “Now all lie dead, left on the field of battle, They went out never more to return.” (Page 4) However, the key detail of this passage that I find most intriguing is how the dead are portrayed. “Their bodies may have died, but their souls are living” (Page 4). This quote mirrors almost all of the previous readings we have covered in class. Most recently, the Bhagavad Gita had a conflict where Prince Arjuna was hesitant to battle because he was against killing the people he was close to. However, he is told by his advisor Krishna that the dead’s souls will continue to live on. In addition, *The Tale of Two Brothers* encapsulates the idea of life or existence after death. I find it especially interesting how our stories have had a common theme of death.

Death is common and a part of human life. Death has affected many people who are still living. I find that through these stories, people since the dawn of time have found comfort in the idea that there is life after death. Across all of these religions and cultures, it surprises me that they all share the belief that the human soul is immortal. I resonate with the idea that there is life after death because of my Christian background. Even though I had a difficult time understanding this passage, I find it amazing how humans share this hope; the hope of an afterlife.