

synopsis

At 98 years of age, the mother is almost blind, almost deaf, can hardly walk and eats like a bird. In the impossibility of conversing with this mother, the daughter-narrator writes to an imaginary mother, talking about her drama. She does this with a view to bearing the physical devastation, lack of communication and, even more so, to elaborate on the loss of a parent even before death.

In her reflections, she recalls the past of a combative women, ready for anything, who, on becoming a widow, took over her husband's company and began to read and re-read his love letters. The same letters that, because she is 98 and unable to see well, her daughter reads to her. Despite her age, however, this mother remains sharp and does exactly what she wants to do. She "puts one over" on anyone trying to control her with advice about doctors, medication, and food, and with this, continually feeds the humor of the narrative.

Thinking about her mother's condition, the daughter asks herself when life should be prolonged and questions the conduct of the doctor who tries to beat death at any price. A text about love and separation, which raises questions that are fundamental nowadays: *How to face extreme old age? Is it a doctor's place to beat death? How to humanize the end of life?*