

Lecture Eight  
Samples of American Poetry  
Because I Could Not Stop for Death  
A Poem by Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

Because I could not stop for Death,  
He kindly stopped for me;  
The carriage held but just ourselves  
And Immortality.  
We slowly drove, he knew no haste,  
And I had put away  
My labor, and my leisure too,  
For his civility.  
We passed the school, where children strove  
At recess, in the ring;  
We passed the fields of gazing grain,  
We passed the setting sun.  
Or rather, he passed us;  
The dews grew quivering and chill,  
For only gossamer my gown,  
<sup>1</sup> My tippet  
<sup>2</sup> only tulle.  
<sup>3</sup> We paused before a house  
<sup>4</sup> that seemed  
A swelling of the ground;  
The roof was scarcely visible,  
The cornice  
<sup>5</sup> but a mound.  
<sup>6</sup> Since then 'tis centuries,  
and yet each  
Feels shorter than the day  
I first surmised the horses' heads  
Were toward eternity.

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1- sweet smell of success, a dime a dozen , bigger and better , jump for joy, is an example of?

Alliteration

2- The repetition of initial sounds in neighboring words is called?

Alliteration



3- "This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England." an example of?

Anaphora

4- The deliberate repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of several successive verses, clauses, or paragraphs. This is called?

Anaphora

5- " He is a horse. Thou art sunshine" is an example of ?

Metaphor

6- The comparison of two UNLIKE things is called?

Metaphor

7- Metaphor is a figure of speech where two distinctly different things are compared .....using adverbs of comparison, 'as', 'like', etc.

Without

8- " Stone walls do not a prison make, Nor iron bars a cage" is an example of?

Paradox

9- Reveals a kind of truth which at first seems contradictory Two opposing ideas. This called?

Paradox

10- " a smiling moon, a jovial sun" is an example of?

Personification

11- The representation of a thing or abstraction in the form of a person. This called?

Personification

12- " Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary" is



an example of?

## Rhyme

13- A rhyme is?

one of two or more words or phrases that end in the same sounds

14- "She is **like** a rose" is an example of?

## Simile

15- Is the comparison of two Unlike things using like or as. This called?

## Simile

16- A stanza is .....group of lines in poetry?

## Unified

17- a main idea or an underlying meaning of a literary work that may be stated directly or indirectly. This called?

## A theme

18- The subject of the poem?

## A topic

19- "**Because I Could Not Stop for Death**" is a lyric poem written by?

## Emily Dickinson

20- The author of this poem is Emily Dickinson born in-----died in-----?

1830-1886

21- "**Because I Could Not Stop for Death**" is a lyric poem on the theme of?

## Death

22- The poem contains .....stanzas, each with four lines?



6 stanzas

23- A four-line stanza is called a....?

Quatrain

24- The poem was first published in.....in Poems, Series 1, a collection of **Miss Dickinson's** poems?

1890

25- "**Because I Could Not Stop for Death**" reveals Emily Dickinson's.....of death?

Calm acceptance

26- It is surprising that she presents the experience as being no more frightening than receiving a ..... caller?

Gentleman

27- In "**Because I could not stop for Death**" death was personified as?

Her fiancé

28- The journey to the grave begins in Stanza 1, when Death comes calling in a carriage in which Immortality is?

Also a passenger

29- As the trip continues in Stanza 2, the carriage trundles along at an easy, unhurried pace, perhaps suggesting that death has arrived in the form of a.....or..... that takes its time to kill?

Disease or debility

30- Then, in Stanza 3, the author appears to review the stages of her life which are?

\*childhood (the recess scene)

\*maturity (the ripe, hence, "gazing" grain)



\*the descent into death (the setting sun)

31- Then, in Stanza 3, the author appears to review the stages of her life as she passes to the other side. There, she experiences a chill because she is?

Not warmly dressed

32- Her garments are more appropriate for a..... representing a new beginning, than for a funeral, representing an end?

Wedding

33- Her description of the grave as her "house" indicates how..... she feels about death?

Comfortable

34- There, after centuries pass, so pleasant is her new life that time "seems to..... feeling "shorter than a Day?

Stand still

35- The overall theme of the poem seems to be that death is not to be feared since it is a?

A natural part of the endless cycle of nature

36- Her view of death may also reflect her.....and.....?

personality and religious beliefs

37- On the one hand, as a spinster, she was somewhat.....and.....tending to dwell on loneliness and death?

Reclusive and introspective

38- Christian and a Bible reader, she was optimistic about her ultimate fate and appeared to see death as?

A friend



39- Speaker, death, immortality, and children are.....of the poem?

### Characters

40- A woman who speaks from the grave. She says she calmly accepted death. In fact, she seemed to welcome death as a suitor whom she planned to "marry" refer to?

### Speaker

41- A suitor who called for the narrator to escort her to eternity refer to?

### Death

42- The passenger in the carriage refer to?

### Immortality

43- Boys and girls at play in a schoolyard. They symbolize childhood as a stage of life refer to?

### Children

44- Thin wedding dress for the speaker's marriage to Death is?

### Gossamer my gown

45- Scarf for neck or shoulders refer to?

### Tippet

46- Netting refer to?

### Tulle

47- Speaker's tomb refer to?

### House

48- Horizontal molding along the top of a wall refer to?

### Cornice



49- The length of time she has been in the tomb refer to?

Since . . . centuries

50- The rhyme scheme of the first stanza is?

abcd

51- In each stanza **Be CAUSE..|..I COULD..|..not STOP..|..for DEATH** the first line has..... syllables,..... Feet?

8 syllables, 4 Feet

52- The second line **He KIND..|..ly STOPPED..|..for ME** has ..... syllables,..... Feet?

6 syllables, 3 Feet

53- The third line **The CARR..|..iage HELD..|..but JUST..|..our SELVES** has ..... syllables,..... Feet?

8 syllables, 4 Feet

54- The fourth line **And IM..|mor TAL..|..i TY** has ..... syllables,..... Feet?

6 syllables, 3 Feet

55- (lines with eight syllables, or four feet). This is called?

Iambic tetrameter

56- (lines with six syllables, or three feet) This is called?

Iambic trimeter

57- The meter alternates in this poem is?

alternates between iambic tetrameter and iambic trimeter

58- In iambic meter, the feet (pairs of syllables) contain an ..... syllable followed by a ..... Syllables?

an unstressed - a stressed



59- There is no rhyme in this poem however some of the lines contain only .....rhyme or ..... rhyme?

Close or eye rhymes

60- In the last line ,second stanza, civility means?

Consideration

61- In the last line ,fifth stanza, mound in this context means?

A pile of destruction

62- The poem depicts the journey to?

The grave

63- The general theme of the poem seems to be that?

Death is not be feared

64- (Because I could not stop for Death (line 1) he knew no haste (line 5)  
In the above lines we can find , in the bold letters?

Alliteration

65- **We passed the** school, where children strove At recess, in the ring;  
**We passed the** fields of gazing grain, **We passed the** setting sun.  
(lines 9-12) In the above mentioned lines, words printed in bold show there is?

Anaphora

66- Since then 'tis centuries, and yet each Feels shorter than the day I  
first surmised the horses' heads (lines 21-23) In the above mentioned  
lines, we can find?

Paradox

67- We passed the setting sun. Or rather, he passed us (lines 12-13)

In the above mentioned lines, we can see?

Personification



68- "We passed the fields of gazing grain". In this line , there is an example of?

Personification

69- ..... is personified throughout the poem?

Death

70- In the first line of forth stanza, what dose quivering, means ?

Trembling

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### Hope is the Thing with Feathers

A Poem by Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul,  
And sings the tune without the words,  
And never stops at all,  
And sweetest in the gale is heard;  
And sore must be the storm  
That could abash the little bird  
That kept so many warm.  
I've heard it in the chilliest land  
And on the strangest sea;  
Yet, never, in extremity,  
It asked a crumb of me

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1- In her poem, Emily Dickinson communicates that hope is like a..... because of its free and independent spirit?

Bird

2- Hope is similar to a bird in its ability to bring?

Comfort and consolation



3- Dickinson uses techniques such as extended metaphor and imagery to describe..... throughout her poem?

### Hope

4- The poet's use of the word "**thing**" indicates that hope is something?

### Abstract and vague

5- By identifying hope as a thing, Dickinson gives an..... concept characteristics of a concrete object?

### Intangible

6- The opening line of this poem also sets up the extended metaphor of comparing hope to a bird in the word?

### Feathers

7- Line two of Dickinson's poem further broadens the metaphor by giving hope delicate and sweet characteristics in the word?

### Perches

8- In line two, first stanza the word "**perches**" suggests that?

### Hope is planning to stay

9- The line "**And sings the tune-without the words**" gives the reader a sense that?

### Hope is universal

10- According to the poem, everyone may understand hope because?

### Hope sings without words

11- The closing line of the first stanza, —"**And never stops at all**". In just one line, there are two negative words which highlight Dickinson's message about?

### Hope cannot be stopped or destroyed



12- The second stanza depicts hope's continuous presence —"And sweetest in the gale is heard" is .....because hope's most comforting song is heard during "a gale" a horrible windstorm?

### **Irony**

13- What is striking about the poem is its absolute..... both in structure and in the words the poem presents?

### **Simplicity**

14- However the content and ideas being discussed in the poem are really far from simple, the idea of hope in "extremity" and hope in the "chilliest land" And "on the strangest sea," is a quite?

### **Philosophical way of viewing the world**

15- One of the messages of the poem seems to say that Everyone goes through stormy times in their life and no matter where you are on earth or from which "strangest sea" you inhabit but there is no need to?

### **Despair**

16- There is a definite..... within the poem between hope on the one side as represented with the words like "warm," "Soul," "sweetest;" and in the pain of life as represented in words like "storm," "gales," "chilliest"?

### **Contrast**

17- Meter refers to the varying, nevertheless recognizable pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables that occur in regular units in the lines of a verse. Each regular unit is called?

### **A foot**

18- "After reading (this book, poem, essay), I think the author wants me to understand....." In this example we can find?

### **Theme**

19- " Hope is the Thing with Feathers " a poem written by?

Emily Dickinson



Author	poems
Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)	* "Because I Could Not Stop for Death" * "Hope is the Thing with Feathers"

