

## American Literature: Emily Dickinson's Poetry

### #448

This is a piece of poem that puts emphasis upon the poet's construction of a poem, which the word "distillation" in the second line of the first stanza came from the sense of distillation of alcohol and perfume. This particular stanza suggests that the meanings and images the poet puts on the page would fill the room, as immense as "Attar." The first line of the second stanza, the phrase, "familiar species," suggest the sense of ordinary meanings in the poem, the surface meaning of the poem. Finally, Dickinson portrays in the last stanza in the second line with the word "Robbing," which suggests that when we read poet's poetry, we would be stealing something from him. However, Dickinson suggests in the following lines that designates that this act would not bring harm to the poet at all; rather, it would become a fortune through time for the poet, which designates the sense of the fame and poems of the poet living on.

### #449

This piece of poem describes two dead persons talking to each other in the tomb, which the speaker of the poem, the persona, takes "truth" and "beauty" as the ideal image. In the first line of the second stanza, Dickinson used the word "failed" as the synonym of "die." Therefore, she suggests that the speaker has died for beauty and death, but not because he has failed his life all along. The first two stanza of the poem reflects the last line of John Keat's *Ode on a Grecian Urn*, "Truth is beauty. Beauty is truth." The last stanza of the poem suggests that the inscriptions on the tomb have become invisible due to the weather, and that "names" could refer to different persons. In addition, dashes in this poem represent a sort of different bridge to different ideas, which serves the function of a conjunction or transition. What is more, what is interesting to note in this poem is that it was Truth who asks questions, which had been quoted by Beauty.

### #712

This piece of poem involves with many images that have been personified. First, the poem describes how the speaker of the poem is having a date with Death, and that Immortality in the poem is described as the maiden or courtship that goes along with the speaker to protect or take care of her. Dickinson used the method of flashback method of the poem to suggest what had happened before the speaker's death, in the third to fifth stanza of the poem. Furthermore, in the fourth stanza, Dickinson used the word He, which this word here is as well personified, as "time," suggesting that the time of the speaker is up, and the speaker of the poem is actually chilled by the persona. What is also interesting in the poem is that, Death in the poem is represented as a patriarchal man in the society, for he gets to make the decision, and provide everything for the family, the possibility of which the speaker does not run away or could have ran away from Death when he attempts to seize her day on earth.