

NCERT Solutions
Class 9 English Beehive
Poem - A Slumber Did My Spirit Seal

NCERT Class 9 Beehive Page No. 136

Thinking about the Poem

1. “A slumber did my spirit seal,” says the poet. That is, a deep sleep ‘closed off’ his soul (or mind). How does the poet react to his loved one’s death? Does he feel bitter grief? Or does he feel a great peace?

Answer:

The poet is shocked at the death of his loved one and feels great pain.

He does not feel bitter grief that he could shed out in the form of tears. He just looked at her and wondered how she looked and what she would experience later. He did not feel any fear.

Instead, he feels a sense of peace as he has realised that after death she has become a part of nature. She is now beyond the life's trials.

2. The passing of time will no longer affect her, says the poet. Which lines of the poem say this?

Answer:

The lines “She seemed a thing that could not feel, The touch of earthy years.” of the poem show that the passing of time will no longer affect her.

3. How does the poet imagine her to be, after death? Does he think of her as a person living in a very happy state (a ‘heaven’)? Or does he see her now as a part of nature? In which lines of the poem do you find your answer?

Answer:

No, the poet does not think of her living in 'heaven' after her death. Instead, he thinks that after being buried in the earth, she has become a part of nature and is moving around with the earth in its daily rotation like the rocks, stones and trees.

The lines of the poem which reflect these feelings of the poet are:

Rolled round in earth’s diurnal course

With rocks and stones and trees.