

ENGLISH

CHAPTER 10: A SLUMBER DID MY SPIRIT SEAL



A SLUMBER DID MY SPIRIT SEAL

~Summary~

-by William Wordsworth**Stanza- 1**

A slumber did my spirit seal
I had no human fears.
She seemed a thing that could not feel
The touch of earthly years.

Explanation: In the stanza, the poet has expressed his grief over the death of a loved one. He says that he had no usual human fears now as death is the ultimate fear for human beings. When a person is alive, then he has many apprehensions and many fears like disease, famine etc. But death makes the end of all these fears because earthly years or usual fears seem to have no effect on his beloved. She has passed away peacefully leaving everything behind.

Stanza- 2

No motion has she now, no force
She neither hears nor sees
Rolled round in earth's diurnal course
With rocks and stones and trees.

Explanation: In this stanza, the poet mentions that there is no motion in the body of his beloved as death has overcome her. Also, death has deprived her of her strength. She is unable to see and unable to hear. All her senses are dead now. She has adjusted herself with the routine activity of earth now. As the earth completes its routine of day and night with the rocks, stones and trees; so does the beloved of the poet now. She has become a part of the nature. The poet concludes with her afterlife.

Conclusion of A Slumber Did My Spirit Seal

A slumber did my spirit seal summary tells us about the pain of the author due to his beloved's death and how he comes to the acceptance of this harsh reality.

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NCERT SOLUTIONS**Questions (Page No. 136)
(Thinking about the Poem)**

Question 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: "A slumber did my spirit seal" says the poet. It is a little difficult to decide if the poet felt bitter grief or a peace. He says that his soul has been sealed due to his loved one's death and that he does not have any human fears. He talks about how his loved one seemed now- motionless and beyond the passage of time.

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

Answer: The lines of the poem that say this are:

"She seemed a thing that could not feel

The touch of earthly years."

Question 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: The poet imagines her to be immersed in the earth. He feels that she has become a part of earth's daily course and rolled along with the rocks, stones and trees.

The lines of the poem that we find our answer in are:

"Rolled round in earth's diurnal course

With rocks and stones and trees."