

*Ode to a
Nightingale*

by John Keats

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The famous love poem Ode to a Nightingale by John Keats.

Ode to a Nightingale Details

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From Reader Review Ode to a Nightingale for online ebook

Jackson Cyril says

Beautiful. Keats addresses the tragedy of life, where men are resigned to "sit and hear each other groan...where youth grows pale, and spectre-thin, and dies". But he juxtaposes this with the nightingale, his "immortal bird", whose song echoes through the ages being heard by the high and mighty and the mean and lowly, a song that the poet himself hears and one he claims that Ruth heard so long ago. The poet at one point (stanza 6) contemplates suicide, claiming to have been "half in love with easeful Death", but the song of the nightingale forces him to pause and reconsider the power of it's life. The bird seems to function like his John the Baptist, a voice of hope in the wilderness.

?eyma says

Keats'in en iyi bilinen ?iiri bu asl'nda, be?endim ama yine de bence kesinlikle bir Ode on a Grecian Urn de?il. O ?iiri çok daha katmanl? bir ?iir diye dü?ünüyorum. Normal ?artlarda okudu?um ?iirleri ayr? ayr? puanlamam burda ama Keats'in ?iirleri bir roman derinli?ine sahip ?iirler, hatta ço?u romandan daha derinli?i olan ?iirler diyebilirim.

Matthew Funke says

Eh .

Kiumars says

Keats always has a gloomy theme in his works I think. But being one of the greatest English romantic poets he never fail to fascinate you. It's like he's always sad. I like that though. Cause I came back to read English poems after a long time and I enjoyed it.

Emily says

John Keats never seemed to ever truly get happy. Instead, he seemed more gloomy and melancholy as he knew he would die young. He did die two years after writing this poem. Listening to the nightingale makes him sad as he is so happy.

Franziska says

So beautiful.

Read by Benedict Cumberbatch. Check on YouTube.

Aleria says

This poem was quite sad. The whole time Benedict Cumberbatch narrated it all I could think was, "It feels like someone describing their own depression or maybe just their despair?" Not sure...but I did enjoy it.

Ryan says

A marvelous blend of forlorn feeling and nostalgic pangs of joy.

Ben says

4.2/5 stars

This poem was written by Keats whilst living with his friend Brown at Hampstead (Wentworth Place), in the early months of 1819. In April, a nightingale built her nest in the garden, and Brown writes:

'Keats felt a tranquil and continual joy in her song; and one morning he took his chair from the breakfast table to the grass-plot under a plum, where he sat for two or three hours. When he came into the house I perceived he had some scraps of paper in his hand, and these he was quietly thrusting behind the books. On inquiry, I found those scraps, four or five in number, contained his poetic feeling on the song of our nightingale. The writing was not well legible, and it was difficult to arrange the stanza on so many scraps. With his assistance I succeeded, and this was his Ode to a Nightingale.'

Whilst I'm not apt to reading poetry, I did quite enjoy this piece by Keats. Of course, I'm expecting any poem that has his name attached to it to be good; the name Keats is a stamp of quality. I'd go into detail about what the poem was about but I'd have to tread quite carefully so as to not ruin it for anyone, so instead, I've decided to let you find out for yourself. It's a short piece, but worth the read.

Yolanda Sfetsos says

When I was in high school, we studied a few of John Keats poems. High school might be something I left behind a while ago, but I never forgot about these poems. And since I've written a story where students actually study a few of his poems, I've been re-reading them lately.

I love how it begins:

My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains

Up until we studied Keats, I'd found poetry boring and lacking. I had no real appreciation for it. But his words made me realise just how imaginative a well-written poem can be. How much imagery can fill your

mind when a poem is written well. And just how thrilling the experience can be when you allow words to help you feel the world through another animal. Not to mention how beautiful a bird's song can be, and how when it's gone... you're left wondering if you heard it at all.

I love the breathless quality of this poem. It's like flying on an adventure, and feeling the wind in your hair. Only to then wonder if it was all a dream.

Yeah. I still love this poem.

Mika says

'Was it a vision, or a walking dream?
Fled is that music: - do I wake or sleep?

Eduard says

Read as part of The Complete Poems of John Keats

**Away! away! for I will fly to thee,
Not charioted by Bacchus and his pards,
But on the viewless wings of Poesy,
Though the dull brain perplexes and retards:
Already with thee! tender is the night,
And haply the Queen-Moon is on her throne,
Cluster'd around by all her starry Fays;
But here there is no light,
Save what from heaven is with the breezes blown
Through verdurous glooms and winding mossy ways.**

**Darkling I listen; and, for many a time
I have been half in love with easeful Death,
Call'd him soft names in many a mused rhyme,
To take into the air my quiet breath;
Now more than ever seems it rich to die,
To cease upon the midnight with no pain,
While thou art pouring forth thy soul abroad
In such an ecstasy!
Still wouldst thou sing, and I have ears in vain -
To thy high requiem become a sod.**

Suzanne says

I confess I didn't read the Life Story section of this Book, simply read the poem the book was titled after ..

Insanity. says

*I have been half in love with easeful Death,
Call'd him soft names in many a mused rhyme,
To take into the air my quiet breath;
Now more than ever seems it rich to die,
To cease upon the midnight with no pain (...)*

I'll say only one thing - this poem read by Benedict Cumberbatch's voice is everything.

Rao Javed says

Lame and boring poem...I hate it. :-(
