

personified, and then represented as unbodied, and so moving with the ease and freedom of a spirit just freed from its clogs of flesh and blood.

Melts.—Describe in your own language what you understand the poet to mean by the *even melting* around the bird's flight.

Star.—Why is a star invisible in daylight?

Hear . . . delight.—"Thy shall delight" may mean that the song gives delight to the listener, or that it is the expression of the delight felt by the bird. The latter is probably preferable.

318. **Keen . . . clear.**—What is meant by "the arrows," "the sphere," "the white dawn"? What is that is "keen as," etc.?

Whose . . . narrows.—Explain and justify this line.

All . . . loud.—Probably, because of its position high in the air, the lark's song seems to flood the whole air, and to come upon the listener from every direction. This effect may be partly or wholly due to the quality of its notes.

When night is bare.—Explain.

Overflowed.—With what?

What . . . not.—We are reminded of Wordsworth's familiar ode to the cuckoo:

"O cuckoo! shall I call thee bird,
Or but a wandering voice?"

From . . . melody.—Supply what is wanting to fill out the comparison, showing exactly the two things which are compared.

As.—Is this correlative to "so," or is it an adverb of time nearly equivalent to *when* or *while*? Study carefully.

Unbidden.—Does "unbidden" qualify "hymns" or "poet"?

Heeded not.—Until wrought upon by the poet's spell.

Bower—a chamber; any sheltered or secluded recess.

Dell—a little hollow or ravine; a kind of diminutive of *dale*.

Dell of dew.—A dell in which the dews have fallen. Indicating the evening, when the glow-worm's light is chiefly seen.

Unbeholden—without being itself seen.

Aerial hue.—The force and fitness of these terms are not very apparent. The idea probably is that the light emitted by the glow-worm resembles the air in color.

319. **Like . . . thieves.**—Who are the thieves? Why called heavy-winged?

Vernal—belonging to the spring-time.

Surpass.—What is the object, or objects, of this verb?

Sprite.—A contraction of *spirit*. Spelled also *spright*.

Hymeneal—*hy-men-e'-al*.—Pertaining to marriage.

Vaunt—a boast. Note that this word rhymes but imperfectly with *chant*. The latter has the sound of *a* in *past*; the former that of *a* in *far*, or, as most of the older lexicographers prefer, that of *a* in *fall*. Shelley probably gave it the latter sound making it rhyme with *want* in the next line.

What fields . . . pain?—What words are in apposition with "objects"?

Joyance—gayety, joyousness.

Languor—*lan'g-gwor*—dullness of mind.

Satiety—*sa-ti'-e-ty*—fullness, an excess of gratification which destroys enjoyment.

320. **Deem**—to be of opinion. Evidently used for the sake of the rhyme in the sense of *to think*, or *believe*. In prose, *deem* is not used with a simple noun as object. Give in your own words the poet's thought in this stanza.

Fraught—freighted, laden.

Yet if . . . near.—Hate, and