

Questions for “Annabel Lee” by Edgar Allan Poe

Annabel Lee **BY EDGAR ALLAN POE 1809–1849**

It was many and many a year ago,
In a kingdom by the sea,
That a maiden there lived whom you may know
By the name of Annabel Lee;
And this maiden she lived with no other thought
Than to love and be loved by me.

I was a child and *she* was a child,
In this kingdom by the sea,
But we loved with a love that was more than love—
I and my Annabel Lee—
With a love that the wingèd seraphs of Heaven
Coveted her and me.

And this was the reason that, long ago,
In this kingdom by the sea,
A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling
My beautiful Annabel Lee;
So that her highborn kinsmen came
And bore her away from me,
To shut her up in a sepulchre
In this kingdom by the sea.

The angels, not half so happy in Heaven,
Went envying her and me—
Yes!—that was the reason (as all men know,
In this kingdom by the sea)
That the wind came out of the cloud by night,
Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee.

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But our love it was stronger by far than the love
Of those who were older than we—
Of many far wiser than we—
And neither the angels in Heaven above
Nor the demons down under the sea
Can ever dissever my soul from the soul
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;

For the moon never beams, without bringing me dreams
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;
And the stars never rise, but I feel the bright eyes
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;
And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side
Of my darling—my darling—my life and my bride,
In her sepulchre there by the sea—
In her tomb by the sounding sea.

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1. What point of view is the poem? (1st or 3rd person)
2. Is it free verse or traditional verse?
3. What does he mean by saying “She was a child and I was a child”?
4. Why would angels want Annabel Lee?
5. Copy a line to show how strong their love was.
6. What sound would you hear so close to the sea?
7. How is this sound reflected in the structure of the poem?
8. How, exactly, does she die?
9. What does the speaker of the poem do that shows he can not live without her?
10. What repetition is found in the poem?
11. What emotions are present in the poem? Write a line number after the emotion to show where you found it.
 - a. Love _____
 - b. Hate _____
 - c. Envy _____
 - d. Can not stop loving _____
 - e. Memory _____
 - f. Death _____
 - g. Happiness _____
 - h. Sadness _____
 - i. Beauty _____
12. Summarize your reaction to this poem in a complete sentence.