

Annabel Lee Answer Key



Name: _____ Class: _____

Annabel Lee

By Edgar Allan Poe
1849

Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849) was an American author, poet, and literary critic whose works are still widely read today. His poem, "Annabel Lee" was published in 1849 and is the last complete poem published by Poe before his death. It remains a mystery who—if anyone—was the inspiration for this poem. As you read, take notes on how Poe characterizes the love between the narrator and Annabel Lee.

- [1] 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;
[5] 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
—

- [10] I and my Annabel Lee;
With a love that the winged seraphs¹ of heaven
Coveted² her and me.

And this was the reason that long ago
In this kingdom by the sea

- [15] A wind blew out of a cloud chilling
My beautiful Annabel Lee;
So that her highborn kinsman came
And bore her away from me
To shut her up in a sepulchre³
[20] 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)

- [25] That the wind came out of the cloud by night
Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee.



"Sometimes, Lonely is Appropriate," by Akawa Re is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

1. another term for angels
2. **Covet (verb):** to desire or want to possess something
3. a burial vault, tomb, or grave

Annabel Lee answer key refers to the various interpretations, analyses, and insights related to Edgar Allan Poe's poem "Annabel Lee." This poem, published in 1849, is one of Poe's most celebrated works and is often studied for its themes of love, loss, and the supernatural. In this article, we will delve into the key aspects of "Annabel Lee," explore its themes and symbolism, and provide a comprehensive answer key for common questions and analyses related to the poem.

Overview of "Annabel Lee"

Edgar Allan Poe wrote "Annabel Lee" shortly before his death, and it reflects his personal experiences with love and loss. The poem is narrated by a speaker who recounts his deep love for Annabel Lee, a beautiful young woman from a kingdom by the sea. Their love, described as pure and intense, faces challenges from external forces, ultimately resulting in tragedy.

Structure and Form

"Annabel Lee" is composed of six stanzas, with varying line lengths and a consistent rhythm that contributes to the poem's lyrical quality. The poem employs a straightforward ABAB rhyme scheme, which enhances its musicality. The repetition of phrases and the use of refrain further emphasize the emotional tone, making it one of Poe's most memorable works.

Themes in "Annabel Lee"

Understanding the central themes of "Annabel Lee" is essential for any analysis. The poem encapsulates several profound ideas that resonate with readers.

1. Love and Loss

At its core, "Annabel Lee" is a poignant exploration of love. The narrator's affection for Annabel Lee transcends death, illustrating the strength and endurance of true love. However, the poem also grapples with the pain of loss, as the narrator mourns the death of his beloved. The juxtaposition of love and loss creates a haunting emotional landscape that defines the poem.

2. The Supernatural

Poe often incorporated supernatural elements into his works, and "Annabel Lee" is no exception. The poem suggests that the love between the narrator and Annabel Lee is so powerful that it attracts the envy of angels. This supernatural jealousy ultimately leads to Annabel Lee's demise, intertwining themes of love with otherworldly forces.

3. Innocence and Youth

The portrayal of Annabel Lee as a young, innocent woman underscores the theme of youth. The speaker reflects on their childhood love, which is portrayed as pure and untainted. The tragic end of their love story serves as a reminder of the vulnerability of youth and the fleeting nature of life.

4. Memory and Mourning

Memory plays a crucial role in the poem. The narrator's recollections of Annabel Lee are vivid and filled with longing. His memories not only keep her alive in his heart but also highlight the pain of mourning. The act of remembering becomes a way for the narrator to cope with his grief.

Symbolism in "Annabel Lee"

Poe's use of symbolism throughout "Annabel Lee" enriches the poem's meaning and invites multiple interpretations.

1. The Sea

The sea serves as a powerful symbol in the poem. It represents the vastness of the narrator's love and the inevitability of loss. The setting "by the sea" evokes both beauty and melancholy, mirroring the duality of love and sorrow experienced by the narrator.

2. Angels

Angels in "Annabel Lee" symbolize jealousy and the idea that love can provoke envy, even from celestial beings. The mention of angels emphasizes that the narrator's love is extraordinary, but it also hints at the fragility of such love when faced with external forces.

3. The Tomb

The tomb, where the narrator believes Annabel Lee resides, represents both death and eternal love. It serves as a physical and emotional space where the narrator continues to connect with his lost beloved, illustrating the idea that love endures beyond death.

Common Questions and Answers about "Annabel Lee"

To further aid in understanding and analyzing "Annabel Lee," here is an answer key for some common questions related to the poem.

1.

What is the main theme of "Annabel Lee"?

The main theme of "Annabel Lee" revolves around the enduring nature of love and the profound sorrow of loss. It illustrates how love can transcend death while also highlighting the pain associated with grief.

2.

Who is the narrator of the poem?

The narrator is a man reflecting on his deep love for Annabel Lee, recounting their relationship and the tragic circumstances surrounding her death.

3.

What role does the setting play in the poem?

The setting by the sea contributes to the poem's themes of love and loss. The sea symbolizes the depth of the narrator's feelings and serves as a backdrop for the beauty and tragedy of their love story.

4.

How does Poe use repetition in the poem?

Poe uses repetition to emphasize key emotions and ideas, creating a musical quality that enhances the poem's lyrical nature. The repeated phrases reinforce the narrator's longing and sorrow.

5.

What does the angel symbolize in "Annabel Lee"?

The angel symbolizes jealousy and the idea that love can provoke envy from higher powers. This adds a layer of complexity to the poem, suggesting that even divine beings are affected by the intensity of true love.

Conclusion

"Annabel Lee" remains a timeless piece of literature that captures the essence of love, loss, and memory. Through its lyrical beauty and rich symbolism, Edgar Allan Poe invites readers to reflect on the nature of love and the impact of grief. The poem's exploration of these universal themes ensures its place in the canon of American poetry. By understanding the key elements of "Annabel Lee," readers can appreciate the depth of emotion and artistry that Poe masterfully conveys in this poignant work.

Emphasizing the importance of the **Annabel Lee answer key**, we see that a thorough analysis not only deepens our understanding of the poem but also enriches our appreciation for Poe's literary genius.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'Annabel Lee' by Edgar Allan Poe?

The main theme of 'Annabel Lee' is the enduring power of love and its ability to transcend death.

Who is the narrator of 'Annabel Lee'?

The narrator is a young man who mourns the loss of his beloved Annabel Lee.

What event causes the tragedy in 'Annabel Lee'?

The tragedy is caused by the death of Annabel Lee, which the narrator believes is a result of jealousy from the angels.

How does the setting contribute to the poem 'Annabel Lee'?

The setting is in a 'kingdom by the sea,' which enhances the dreamlike and melancholic atmosphere of the poem.

What literary devices are prominently used in 'Annabel Lee'?

Poe uses repetition, rhyme, alliteration, and imagery to create a musical quality and evoke emotions.

What does the sea symbolize in 'Annabel Lee'?

The sea symbolizes both the beauty and the sorrow of love, as well as the separation caused by death.

How does the narrator cope with the loss of Annabel Lee?

The narrator copes by cherishing memories of their love and believing that their souls are forever connected.

What is the tone of 'Annabel Lee'?

The tone is melancholic and nostalgic, reflecting a deep sense of loss and longing.

Is 'Annabel Lee' based on a true story?

While 'Annabel Lee' is a work of fiction, it is believed to be inspired by Poe's real-life experiences and relationships.

What is the significance of the repeated phrase 'Annabel Lee'?

The repeated phrase emphasizes the narrator's fixation on his lost love and serves to immortalize her name in his memory.

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