

English

Introduction to Poetry: Imagery

Lesson 4 of 8

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A Red, Red Rose (1794)

Robert Burns

Oh my love's like a red, red rose,
That's newly sprung in June;
My love's like the melody
That's sweetly played in tune.

As fair art thou, my bonny lass,
So deep in love am I;
And I can love thee still, my dear,
Till a' the seas gang dry.

**Read the poem again
and complete the task.**

**It goes onto the next
page.**

Glossary:

Bonny = attractive or beautiful

Thou = you

Gang = go

Wi' = with

O' = of

Weel = well

'Twere = it were



Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear,
And the rocks melt wi' the sun;
I will love thee still, my dear,
While the sands o' life shall run.

And fare thee weel, my only love,
Oh fare thee weel awhile!
And I will come again, my love,
Though 'twere ten thousand mile.

Task: Explain in your own words what the imagery used in this poem (word choices, simile, metaphor etc.) help us to understand about the speaker's feelings.

There are sentence starters on the next slide to help you.



1. *By using the simile 'my love's like a red, red, rose' the poet shows us that...*
2. *When the poet uses the metaphor 'I can love thee still, my dear, / Till a' the seas gang dry' we realise that...*
3. *When the poet says 'So deep in love am I' it helps us to understand...*

Now see if you can make write your own sentence using this quote: 'my bonny lass'.