

Come into the Garden, Maud 2



I've collapsed the text into alphabetical order here (see 'Techniques') as I think the language of the poem looks very interesting and I want, for a while, to look at it separately. If I try to do so by just reading the poem normally, my mind keeps trying to unravel the poem's 'meaning' and is constantly distracted!

I would ask students to mark the text below in different ways. I've started to do so in the following way: red text to signify words that seem slightly out of place in a 'love poem' – if that is what it is, blue text for words that just strike me as interesting; the repeated references to dance, for instance. Students might then highlight words which they wish to look up.

When they have marked the whole text, discuss their findings. Then look at the original poem and investigate: a) the part played by the words in red, and b) the significance of those in blue. Are one's feelings about the tone of the text born out when you see the words in context?

a abroad acacia airy all alone am an and are as at awake away babble
bassoon bat be beat bed beginning bird black blood blossom blown
blue breeze brief but by casement century clash'd come coming cries
curls daffodil dance dancers dances dancing dawn day dead dear dearer
die done dove dozed dust earth earthy echoes ever eyes faint fall
fallen fate feet fell flowers flown flute for from garden gate gay girls
glimmer gloss goes gone had half hall has have he head hear heard
heart her here high his hither hollows hush I in into is it jessamine
jewelprint knowing lain lake lake-blossom larkspur last late lea leave left
life light lilies lily listens little long lordlover loud love loves low march-
wind Maud me meadow meet milk-bloom mine moon morning moves
music musk my near never night not now o of on one our out over
own paradise passion-flower pearls pimpernel planet play promise purple
queen red revel rising rivulet rose rosebud roses said sake sand satin
sets setting shake she shine sigh'd sighs silence sky slender so soul
spices splendid start stirr'd stone stood sun sunning sware sweet tear
than that the thee their there they thine those till to tread tree tremble
tune under valleys violets violin wafted wait waking walks was we weary
weeps went were what wheel when whenever which whispers white
whom will wine with wood woodbine woody would young your