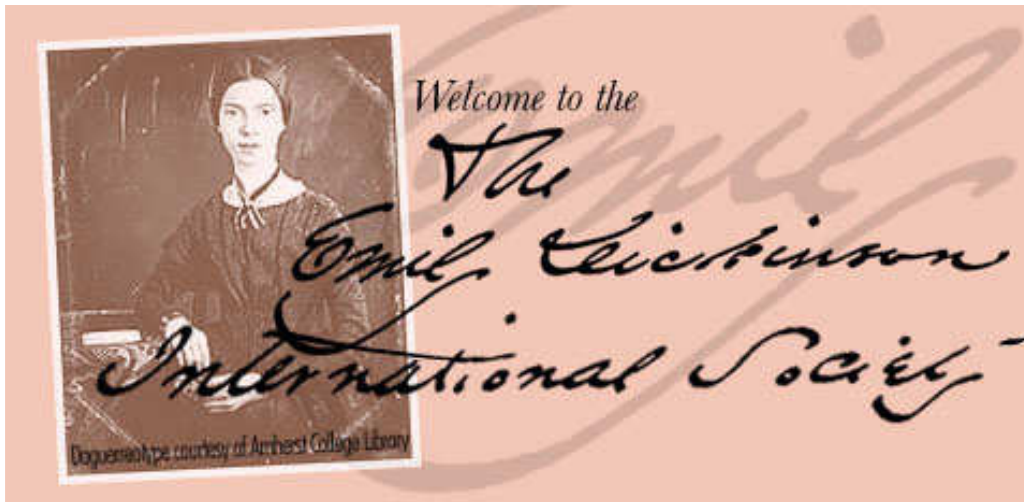


Unit 27

I DIE FOR BEAUTY

Emily Dickinson

Annotated by Grace Hsu



About the Author

Emily Dickinson (1830-86) 美國十九世紀的女詩人。生於麻薩諸塞州 Amherst 郡，被譽為 The Belle of Amherst〔Amherst 美女〕。家境富裕，終生未嫁。自 1862 年起足不出戶，過了將近 25 年的隱居生活。寫過一千七 (八?) 百多首清新的短詩。題材多半有關自然、死亡和永生。詩稿死後才被發現。著名的詩篇有 “*I Am Nobody. Who Are You?*”、 “*Hope Is the Thing with Feathers*”、 “*Little Stone*”、 “*Success Is Counted Sweetest*” 等。

For more information about Emily Dickinson, check out the website:

<http://www.colorado.edu/EDIS>

I die for beauty— but was **scarce**
Adjusted in the Tomb
 When one who died for Truth,
 Was lain in an **adjoining** Room—
 He questioned softly “Why I failed?”
 “For Beauty” , I **replied**—
 “And I—for Truth—Themselves are
 One—We **Brethren**, are” , He said
 And so, as **kinsmen**, met at Night
 We talked between the Rooms
 Until the **Moss** had reached our lips
 And covered up--our names—

Mini-dictionary

1. **scarce** = scarcely (adv) hardly; almost not 幾乎不
2. **adjust** (v) to change slightly, esp. to make suitable for new conditions 適應
3. **adjoining** (a) next to; very close to 緊鄰的
4. **reply** (v) to answer 答覆
5. **brethren** = brothers (n) 同道
6. **kinsmen** (n) relatives 親屬
7. **moss** (n) very small green or yellow flowerless plant growing on damp stones
苔
8. **lip** (n) one of the two edges of the mouth where the skin is red 嘴唇

Grammar

- A.** lie Lay lain 躺；埋葬 He _____ on the bed for half an hour.
 lie Lied lied 說謊 She _____ about her age.
 lay Laid laid 放置；產卵 The hen _____ an egg every day.
- B.** Themselves 在語法上是錯的。此處應為 They Themselves are One.

反身代名詞的功能有二：

- 1 主詞與受詞同一人 God helps those who help _____.
- 2 加強語氣 I _____ saw him do it.