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—Themself 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. **Themself** 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.