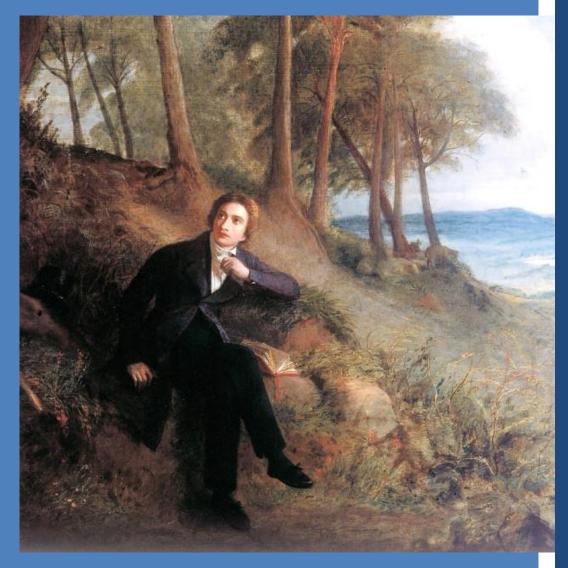
KEATS' ODES: FOOTNOTED

1. Ode to a Nightingale; 2. Ode on a Grecian Urn; 3. To Autumn

Footnoted by Nick Franklin. More footnoted texts at <u>www.yes-mag.com</u>.



Ode To A Nightingale

My <u>heart aches</u>, and a <u>drowsy</u>¹ <u>numbness</u>² <u>pains</u>³ My <u>sense</u>, as <u>though</u> of <u>hemlock</u>⁴ <u>I</u> had <u>drunk</u>, Or <u>emptied some</u> <u>dull</u>⁵ opiate to the <u>drains</u> One <u>minute past</u>, and <u>Lethe</u>⁶-wards had <u>sunk</u>: 'Tis⁷ <u>not</u> through <u>envy</u> <u>of</u> thy <u>happy</u> <u>lot</u>⁸, But <u>being</u>⁹ <u>too</u> <u>happy</u> in thine <u>happiness</u>¹⁰, – That¹² <u>thou</u>, light-wingèd <u>Dry</u>ad¹³ <u>of</u> the <u>trees</u> In <u>some</u> melodious <u>plot</u>¹⁴ Of <u>beechen green</u>¹⁵, and <u>sha</u>dows <u>num</u>berless, <u>Singest</u> of <u>summer</u> <u>in</u> full-<u>throa</u>ted <u>ease</u>.

assonance, alliteration

polyptoton¹¹

O, for a <u>draught</u>¹⁶ of <u>vintage</u>! that <u>hath</u>¹⁷ been <u>Cool'd</u> a long age in the <u>deep</u>-delved¹⁸ earth, <u>Tasting of Flora</u>¹⁹ and the <u>country green</u>, <u>Dance</u>, and <u>Provençal song</u>²⁰, and <u>sunburnt mirth</u>²¹! O for a <u>beaker</u>²² <u>full</u> of the <u>warm South</u>, <u>Full</u> of the <u>true</u>, the <u>blushful</u> <u>Hippocrene</u>²³, With <u>beaded bubbles winking at the brim</u>, And <u>purple-stained mouth</u>; That <u>I</u> might <u>drink</u>, and <u>leave</u> the <u>world</u> unseen, And <u>with</u> thee <u>fade</u> <u>away</u>²⁴ into the <u>forest</u> <u>dim</u>²⁵:

alliteration

- ¹¹ polyptoton the repetition of words derived from the same root
- ¹² that (in this case) because
- ¹³ <u>Dry</u>ad tree nymph

¹⁶ draught – (*in this case*) drink

²⁵ dim – dark, ob<u>scure</u>

¹ <u>drowsy</u> – <u>som</u>nolent, sopo<u>ri</u>fic

² <u>numbness</u> – <u>temporary paralysis</u>

³ aches... pains – the apparently paradoxical association of pleasure and pain is a theme common to the Spring odes. When sensation is extreme, intense pleasure and pain are almost indistinguishable

⁴ <u>hemlock</u> – (*Conium maculatum*) the <u>natural poison taken by So</u>crates

⁵ $\overline{\text{dull}}$ – (*in this case*) <u>sleep</u>-in<u>du</u>cing

⁶ <u>Lethe</u> – the <u>river</u> of ob<u>livion</u> in <u>Ha</u>des

⁷ $\overline{\text{'tis}}$ – (archaic) it is

⁸ thy <u>lot</u> – your situ<u>a</u>tion, your <u>cir</u>cumstances

⁹ the subject of 'being' is an absent 'I'. This is a case of 'anacoluthon' (= beginning a sentence in one way and continuing or ending it in another).

¹⁰ the repetition in the wordplay parallels the repetition in the birdsong

¹⁴ **plot** – (*in this case*)<u>piece</u> of <u>land</u>

¹⁵ <u>beechen green</u> – the green of <u>beech trees</u> (*Fagus*)

¹⁷ hath – (*archaic*) has

¹⁸ **deep-delved** $- \underline{\text{deep}}$ ly <u>dug</u>

¹⁹ the Roman goddess of flowers and Spring (Greek 'Chloris')

²⁰ **Provençal song** – suggesting the mediaeval troubadours

²¹ mirth – eu<u>pho</u>ria, joy

 $[\]frac{22}{2}$ <u>bea</u>ker – (*in this case*) big cup

²³ <u>Hippocrene</u> – a fountain on Mount Helicon sacred to the Muses, and said to have been caused by Pegasus striking the spot with his hoof. The water was sacred to the muses and so a source of poetic inspiration. The implication is red wine as poetic inspiration; the idea of wine as 'blushing water' originates in the Biblical story of Christ turning water into wine (John, 2) but Keats may also be playing on the flushed cheeks caused by drinking.

²⁴ to <u>fade</u> a<u>way</u> – <u>gra</u>dually disap<u>pear</u>, <u>va</u>nish

Fade <u>far</u> away, dis<u>solve</u>, and <u>quite</u> for<u>get</u> What thou a<u>mong</u> the <u>leaves</u>²⁶ hast²⁷ <u>never known</u>, The <u>weariness</u>²⁸, the <u>fever</u>, and the <u>fret</u>²⁹ <u>Here</u>, where <u>men sit</u> and <u>hear</u> each other <u>groan</u>; Where <u>palsy³⁰ shakes a few</u>, sad, <u>last gray hairs</u>, Where <u>youth</u> grows <u>pale</u>, and <u>spectre-thin</u>, and <u>dies</u>;³¹ Where <u>but to think</u> is to be <u>full</u> of <u>sor</u>row³² And <u>leaden-eyed despairs</u>³³, Where <u>Beauty cannot keep</u> her <u>lustrous eyes</u>,³⁴ Or <u>new Love pine</u> at³⁵ them beyond to-morrow.

A<u>way</u>! a<u>way</u>! for³⁶ I will <u>fly</u> to <u>thee</u>, Not <u>cha</u>rioted by <u>Bac</u>chus³⁷ and his <u>pards</u>³⁸, But <u>on</u> the <u>viewless</u>³⁹ <u>wings</u> of <u>Poesy</u>⁴⁰, Though the <u>dull</u>⁴¹ <u>brain</u> perplexes and retards: Already with thee! tender is the <u>night</u>⁴², And <u>haply</u>⁴³ the <u>Queen-Moon</u>⁴⁴ is <u>on</u> her <u>throne</u>, <u>Cluster'd around</u>⁴⁵ by all her <u>starry</u> <u>Fays</u>⁴⁶; But <u>here</u> there is <u>no light</u>, Save⁴⁷ <u>what</u> from <u>heaven is</u> with the <u>breezes blown</u> Through <u>verdurous</u>⁴⁸ <u>glooms</u>⁴⁹ and <u>winding</u>⁵⁰ <u>mossy ways</u>.

²⁶ leaves – <u>fo</u>liage

²⁷ thou... has -(archaic) you... have

²⁸ weariness - exhaustion

 $[\]frac{29}{\text{fret}} - \underline{\text{worry}}, \text{ preoccupation}$

³⁰ <u>pal</u>sy – in<u>vo</u>luntary <u>tre</u>mors

³¹ an acknowledge biographical reference to Tom Keats

³² <u>sor</u>row – <u>sad</u>ness

³³ <u>leaden-eyed</u> despairs – <u>hope</u>lessness and despondency ('<u>leaden'</u> = <u>made</u> of the <u>metal lead</u> (Pb.)

³⁴ what is beautiful is subject to change, except for the bird's song, which is heard down the centuries

³⁵ to <u>pine</u> at $-\underline{long}$ for, <u>yearn</u> for

³⁶ for -(in this case) given that

³⁷ <u>Bacchus</u> – the <u>Roman god</u> of <u>wine</u> ³⁸ pords looperds shortsho

 $[\]frac{^{38}}{^{39}}$ pards – <u>leopards</u>, <u>cheetahs</u>

 $[\]frac{^{39}}{^{40}}$ <u>viewless</u> – in<u>vi</u>sible

 $[\]frac{40}{40}$ <u>**poesy**</u> – (*archaic*) poetry

⁴¹ **dull** – (*in this case*) melan<u>cho</u>lic

⁴² used by Scott Fitzgerald as a novel title. Fitzgerald, who greatly admired Keats, also died on TB.

⁴³ <u>haply</u> – (*in this case*) per<u>haps</u>, <u>may</u>be

⁴⁴ **<u>Oueen-Moon** – Cyn</u>thia or Di<u>a</u>na

⁴⁵ <u>clus</u>tered a<u>round</u> – sur<u>roun</u>ded

⁴⁶ Fays – <u>fairy</u> attendants. In this ode Keats mixes Classical deities with English fairies, as Shakespeare does in A Midsummer Night's Dream

⁴⁷ save – (in this case) except for

⁴⁸ <u>ver</u>durous – <u>full</u> of <u>green</u> vege<u>ta</u>tion

⁴⁹ $\overline{\text{gloom}} - (poetic)$ dark place

⁵⁰ <u>win</u>ding – me<u>an</u>dering

I <u>can</u> not <u>see</u> what <u>flowers</u> are <u>at</u> my <u>feet</u> ,	
Nor <u>what</u> soft <u>in</u> cense <u>hangs</u> upon the boughs ⁵¹ ,	synaesthesia
But, in em<u>balm</u>èd⁵² <u>dark</u> ness, guess each sweet	-
Where <u>with</u> ⁵³ the <u>sea</u> sonable <u>month</u> endows ⁵⁴	
The grass, the <u>thic</u>ket ⁵⁵ , and the <u>fruit</u> -tree <u>wild</u> ;	
White hawthorn⁵⁶ , and the pastoral eglantine⁵⁷;⁵⁸	
Fast <u>fa</u> ding <u>vio</u> lets <u>cover'd up</u> in <u>leaves;</u>	
And mid-May's eldest child,	pararhyme
The <u>co</u> ming <u>musk</u> -rose ⁵⁹ , <u>full</u> of <u>dewy wine</u> ,	
The <u>mur</u> murous <u>haunt</u> ⁶⁰ of <u>flies</u> on <u>sum</u> mer <u>eves</u> ⁶¹ .	
Darkling ⁶² I listen; and, for many a time	
I have been half in love with easeful ⁶³ Death,	
<u>Call'd him soft names in many a mused rhyme,</u>	
To <u>take</u> into the <u>air</u> my <u>qui</u> et <u>breath</u> ;	
<u>Now</u> more than <u>ever seems</u> it <u>rich</u> to <u>die</u> ⁶⁴ ,	
To <u>cease</u> upon the <u>midnight</u> with no pain,	
While thou art pouring forth thy soul abroad ⁶⁵	assonance
In <u>such</u> an <u>ec</u> sta <u>sy</u> !	
Still wouldst thou sing, and I have ears in vain –	
To <u>thy</u> high <u>requiem</u> ⁶⁶ be <u>come</u> a <u>sod</u> ⁶⁷ .	

 $^{^{51}}$ **bough** – brank

 $^{5^2}$ embalmed – shrouded (conveys the idea of death). The implication is of richly scented darkness, as with the aromatic drugs used to preserve a cadaver. This suggests the heavy perfume of the flowers and anticipates the reference to death in Stanza 6. ⁵³ where<u>with</u> – with which

³⁵ where with – with which
⁵⁴ to endow – equip, provide
⁵⁵ thicket – copse, dense group of trees
⁵⁶ hawthorn – (*Crataegus monogyna*) a type of shrub
⁵⁷ eglantine – sweetbrier, or honeysuckle
⁵⁸ these lines are inspired by A Midsummer Night's Dream II. i. 248-67
⁵⁹ words – (*Pasa moschata*) a type of rose

⁵⁹ <u>musk</u>-rose – (*Rosa moschata*) a <u>type</u> of <u>rose</u>

⁶⁰ haunt – domain

⁶¹ eve – (*poetic*) evening ⁶² <u>darkling</u> – (*archaic*) in the <u>dark</u>

⁶³

 ⁶³ easeful - pain-free
 ⁶⁴ rich to die - magnificent to die at such an intense moment of experience.
 ⁶⁵ thou art pouring forth thy soul abroad - you are singing loudly

⁶⁶ requiem – Keats imagines the bird's song to be a hymn for his own soul

⁶⁷ be<u>come</u> a <u>sod</u> – be<u>cause</u> I would have <u>turned in</u>to <u>earth</u> (<u>being dead</u>)

Thou wast⁶⁸ not <u>born</u> for <u>death</u>, immortal <u>Bird</u>! No <u>hungry generations</u>⁶⁹ tread thee <u>down</u>; The <u>voice</u> I <u>hear</u> this <u>passing night</u> was <u>heard</u> In <u>ancient days</u> by <u>emperor</u> and <u>clown</u>⁷⁰: Perhaps the <u>self</u>-same <u>song</u> that found a <u>path</u> <u>Through</u> the sad <u>heart</u> of <u>Ruth</u>⁷¹, when, <u>sick</u> for <u>home</u>, She <u>stood</u> in <u>tears</u> <u>amid</u> the <u>alien</u>⁷² <u>corn</u>; The <u>same</u> that <u>oft</u>-times <u>hath</u>⁷³ <u>Charm'd magic</u> <u>casements</u>⁷⁴, <u>opening on</u> the <u>foam</u> Of <u>perilous</u>⁷⁵ <u>seas</u>, in <u>fae</u>ry <u>lands</u> for<u>lorn</u>⁷⁶.

For<u>lorn</u>! the very word is like a bell To toll me⁷⁷ back from thee to my sole self! Adieu! the fancy cannot cheat so well⁷⁸ As she is fam'd to do, deceiving elf⁷⁹. Adieu! adieu! thy plaintive anthem⁸⁰ fades⁸¹ Past the near meadows⁸², over the still stream, Up the hill-side; and now 'tis buried deep In the next valley-glades⁸³: Was it a vision, or a waking⁸⁴ dream? Fled is that music: – Do I wake or sleep?

⁷⁹ de<u>ceiving elf</u> – imagi<u>na</u>tion per<u>so</u>nified as a <u>mis</u>chievous <u>sprite</u>

⁶⁸ thou wast – (*archaic*) you were

⁶⁹ <u>hungry generations – children 'consume</u>' their <u>pa</u>rents and replace them

⁷⁰ clown – (*in this case*) <u>pea</u>sant; <u>simple une</u>ducated <u>per</u>son

⁷¹ biblical Ruth was driven into exile by famine and worked in the fields near Bethlehem

⁷² alien – <u>fo</u>reign

⁷³ oft-times hath -(archaic) has often

⁷⁴ casement – window

⁷⁵ **<u>perilous** – dang</u>erous

⁷⁶ forlorn – utterly lost, desolate, hopeless, wretched, forsaken, abandoned, neglected

⁷⁷ an ominous allusion to John Donne's "Never send to know for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee."

⁷⁸ the <u>fancy cannot cheat so well</u> – the imagination <u>cannot keep up</u> the illusion (of the <u>nightingale's immortality</u>)

⁸⁰ thy <u>plain</u>tive <u>an</u>them – your <u>hymn</u> of <u>sadness</u>

⁸¹ to fade – gradually disappear

⁸² <u>meadow – field of grass and flowers (typically near a river)</u>

⁸³ glade – open space in a forest

⁸⁴ waking – lucid

Ode on a Grecian Urn

Thou <u>still</u> ⁸⁵ unravish'd ⁸⁶ <u>bride</u> of <u>quietness</u> ⁸⁷ , Thou <u>foster-child</u> ⁸⁸ of <u>silence</u> and slow <u>time</u> , ⁸⁹ <u>Sylvan historian⁹⁰, who</u> canst <u>thus</u> express A flowery <u>tale</u> more <u>sweetly</u> <u>than</u> our <u>rhyme</u> : What <u>leaf</u> -fring'd ⁹¹ legend <u>haunts</u> ⁹² about thy <u>shape</u> Of <u>deities</u> or <u>mor</u> tals, <u>or</u> of <u>both</u> , In <u>Tempe⁹³ or</u> the <u>dales</u> ⁹⁴ of <u>Arcady</u> ⁹⁵ ? What <u>men</u> or <u>gods</u> are <u>these</u> ? What <u>mai</u> dens <u>loth</u> ⁹⁶ ? What <u>mad</u> pur <u>suit</u> ? What <u>struggle</u> to escape? What <u>pipes</u> and <u>tim</u> brels ⁹⁷ ? <u>What</u> wild <u>ecstasy</u> ?	allitertion	
Heard <u>melodies</u> are <u>sweet</u> , but <u>those</u> un <u>heard</u> Are <u>sweeter</u> : <u>therefore</u> , <u>ye</u> ⁹⁸ soft ⁹⁹ <u>pipes</u> , play <u>on</u> ¹⁰⁰ ; <u>Not</u> to the <u>sensual ear</u> , but, <u>more</u> en <u>dear'd</u> , <u>Pipe</u> to the <u>spi</u> rit <u>dit</u> ties of <u>no tone</u> ¹⁰¹ : Fair <u>youth</u> , beneath the <u>trees</u> , thou <u>canst</u> not <u>leave</u> ¹⁰² Thy <u>song</u> , nor ever <u>can</u> those <u>trees</u> be <u>bare</u> ¹⁰³ ; Bold ¹⁰⁴ <u>lover</u> , <u>never</u> , <u>never</u> <u>canst</u> thou <u>kiss</u> , Though <u>winning near</u> the <u>goal</u> ¹⁰⁵ – yet, <u>do</u> not <u>grieve</u> ¹⁰⁶ ; She <u>cannot</u> <u>fade</u> ¹⁰⁷ , though <u>thou</u> hast <u>not</u> thy <u>bliss</u> ¹⁰ For <u>ever</u> <u>wilt</u> thou ¹⁰⁹ <u>love</u> , and <u>she</u> be <u>fair¹¹⁰</u> !		
 Ah, <u>happy</u>, <u>happy boughs</u>! that <u>cannot shed</u> Your <u>leaves</u>, nor <u>ever bid</u> the <u>spring adieu</u>; And, <u>happy melodist</u>, un<u>wea</u>ried, For <u>ever piping songs</u> for <u>ever new</u>; ⁸⁵ still – (wordplay) a. <u>motionless (like a bride at the altar); b. virginal, intact</u> 	(the urn is unbroken): c. sterile because	
 still - (<i>wordplay</i>) at <u>ind</u>contess (nee a <u>bride</u> at the <u>a</u>tar), b. <u>virginal</u>, in<u>tact</u> (the <u>unit</u> is un<u>broken</u>), c. <u>sterne because</u> her <u>marriage</u> will <u>ne</u>ver be <u>cons</u>ummated ⁸⁶ un<u>ravished</u> - (<i>in this case</i>) <u>virginal</u> ⁸⁷ <u>quietness</u> - tran<u>quillity</u> ⁸⁸ <u>foster-child</u> - the <u>urn's maker</u>, its <u>parent</u>, is <u>dead</u>, it has been <u>cared</u> for by <u>time</u> and <u>silence</u> ⁸⁹ it has been suggested that silence and slow time are <i>foster</i> parents to ensure that there is no intercourse - no regeneration in the entire poem ⁹⁰ <u>sylvan historian</u> - the <u>urn</u> is apostrophized as a <u>wood</u>land <u>sto</u>ryteller, who narrates through <u>i</u>mages ⁹¹ <u>leaf</u>-fringed - referring to the <u>de</u>corative <u>foliage</u> on the <u>urn</u> ⁹² to haunt - be <u>manifest</u>, appear, exist ⁹³ <u>Tempe</u> - a <u>valley</u> in <u>Thes</u>saly, <u>ce</u>lebrated for its <u>beau</u>tiful, <u>cool wood</u>lands 		
 ⁹⁵ Arcady – Arcadia, a district in <u>Greece</u> associated with <u>pastoral happiness</u>, ⁹⁶ loth – (<i>in this case</i>) un<u>willing to yield</u>, reluctant ⁹⁷ timbrels – tambourines or small drums ⁹⁸ ye – (<i>archaic</i>) you ⁹⁹ soft – (<i>in this case</i>) harmonious, melodious ¹⁰⁰ to play on – continue playing ¹⁰¹ ditties of <u>no tone</u> – songs inaudible to the <u>human ear</u> ¹⁰² thou <u>canst not leave</u> – (<i>archaic</i>) you <u>cannot interrupt</u> ¹⁰³ bare – (<i>in this case</i>) without foliage ¹⁰⁴ bold – audacious, valiant ¹⁰⁵ goal – objective ¹⁰⁶ to grieve – lament, be sad ¹⁰⁷ to fade – (<i>in this case</i>) become less beautiful ¹⁰⁸ thou hast <u>not thy bliss</u> – you haven't achieved your <u>ec</u>stasy ¹⁰⁹ wilt thou – (<i>archaic</i>) will you ¹¹⁰ fair – (<i>in this case</i>) beautiful 	<u>home</u> of <u>Pan</u>	

More <u>happy love</u> ! more <u>happy</u> , <u>happy love</u> ! For <u>ever warm</u> and <u>still</u> to <u>be</u> enjoy'd, For <u>ever panting</u> , <u>and</u> for <u>ever young</u> ; All <u>breathing human passion far above</u> , That <u>leaves</u> a <u>heart high-sorrowful¹¹¹ and cloy'd¹¹², A <u>burning fore</u>head, <u>and</u> a <u>parching tongue</u>.</u>	assonance
Who are these coming to the sacrifice?	
To <u>what</u> green <u>al</u> tar, O <u>mysterious priest</u> ,	
<u>Lead'st</u> thou ¹¹³ that <u>heifer¹¹⁴ lowing¹¹⁵ at the skies</u> ,	
And <u>all</u> her <u>silken</u> flanks ¹¹⁶ with garlands drest ¹¹⁷ ?	
What <u>little town</u> by <u>river or</u> sea <u>shore</u> ,	
Or <u>mountain-built</u> with <u>peace</u> ful <u>ci</u> tadel,	
Is emptied of this folk ¹¹⁸ , this pious morn ¹¹⁹ ?	
And, <u>lit</u> tle <u>town</u> , thy <u>streets</u> for <u>evermore</u> Will <u>silent be</u> ; and <u>not</u> a <u>soul</u> to <u>tell</u> ¹²⁰	allitoration nananhumo
Whit shent \underline{be} , and \underline{not} a sour to ten Why thou art ¹²¹ desolate, can <u>e'er</u> ¹²² return.	alliteration, pararhyme
why <u>thou</u> art <u>de</u> so <u>late</u> , can <u>e er</u> re <u>tum</u> .	
O <u>Attic¹²³ shape</u> ! Fair <u>attitude</u> ! with <u>brede</u> ¹²⁴	internal rhyme
Of <u>marble men</u> and <u>maidens</u> overwrought ¹²⁵ ,	alliteration
With forest branches and the trodden weed;	
Thou, <u>si</u> lent <u>form</u> , dost <u>tease</u> us <u>out</u> of <u>thought</u>¹²⁶	pararhyme
As <u>doth</u> e <u>ternity</u> : ¹²⁷ Cold <u>Pas</u> to <u>ral</u> !	
When <u>old</u> age <u>shall</u> this <u>generation</u> <u>waste</u> ¹²⁸ , $\frac{1}{120}$	
Thou <u>shalt</u> ¹²⁹ remain, in <u>midst</u> of <u>other</u> woe ¹³⁰	
Than <u>ours</u> , a <u>friend</u> to <u>man</u> , to <u>whom</u> thou <u>say'st</u> ,	
" <u>Beauty</u> is <u>truth</u> , truth <u>beauty</u> ", – <u>that</u> is <u>all</u>	
Ye <u>know</u> on <u>earth</u> , and <u>all</u> ye <u>need</u> to <u>know</u> .	alliteration

- ¹¹³ lead'st thou...? (archaic) are you leading
 ¹¹⁴ heifer young female cow
 ¹¹⁵ to low moo
 ¹¹⁶ flank side
 ¹¹⁷ drest dressed, adorned
 ¹¹⁸ is emptied of this folk has been vacated by these people
 ¹¹⁹ morn (poetic) morning
 ¹²⁰ not a soul to tell nobody who can explain
 ¹²¹ thou art (archaic) you are
 ¹²² e'er ever
 ¹²³ Attic from Attica or Athens

- ¹²² e'er ever
 ¹²³ <u>Attic</u> from <u>Attica or Athens</u>
 ¹²⁴ brede em<u>broi</u>dery, decoration
 ¹²⁵ over<u>wrought</u> painted or <u>carved</u> on the <u>sur</u>face
 ¹²⁶ dost <u>tease</u> us <u>out of thought</u> frustrate our attempts to <u>think rea</u>sonably
 ¹²⁷ i.e. both the beauty of the urn and the notion of eternity should be felt, not speculated upon. Art stops time, and so is a form of eternity.
 ¹²⁸ to waste (*in this case*) eliminate
 ¹²⁹ thou shalt (*archaic*) you will

high-sorrowful – very sad
 to cloy – make weary through excess
 lead'st thou...? (archaic) are you leading

¹³⁰ woe – <u>sadness</u>, <u>suffering</u>

To Autumn (September, 1819)

EARLY AUTUMN – ripening – tactile imagery – description of landscape. The plenitude of the land.

Season of $mists^{131}$ and $mellow^{132}$ fruitfulness! Close bosom-friend¹³³ of the maturing¹³⁴ sun; **Conspiring**¹³⁵ with him how to **load**¹³⁶ and bless With fruit the **vines**¹³⁷ that round the **thatch-eaves**¹³⁸ run; To **bend with**¹³⁹ apples the **mossed**¹⁴⁰ **cottage-trees**¹⁴¹, And fill all fruit with **ripeness**¹⁴² **to the core**¹⁴³; To **swell**¹⁴⁴ the **gourd**¹⁴⁵, and **plump**¹⁴⁶ the **hazel shells**¹⁴⁷ With a sweet **kernel**¹⁴⁸; to **set budding**¹⁴⁹ more, And still more, **later**¹⁵⁰ flowers for the bees, Until they think warm days will never cease, For Summer has **o'erbrimmed**¹⁵¹ their **clammy**¹⁵² **cells**¹⁵³.

¹³¹ mist - <u>low cloud</u> that reduces visi<u>bi</u>lity

¹³² <u>mellow – subdued;</u> ripe, mature; good-humoured

¹³³ <u>close</u> <u>bo</u>som-<u>friend</u> – <u>in</u>timate <u>friend</u>

¹³⁴ maturing – a. getting older as the year passes; b. bringing crops to ripeness

¹³⁵ to conspire – (*in this case*) plan, cooperate

¹³⁶ to load - weigh down (with grapes)

¹³⁷ vine – <u>cli</u>mbing <u>plant</u> on which <u>grapes</u> grow

¹³⁸ <u>thatch</u>-eves – (*in this case*) <u>homes</u> of the <u>ru</u>ral <u>poor</u>

¹³⁹ to bend with – be weighed down by

¹⁴⁰ mossed – \underline{mos} sy, \underline{co} vered in \underline{moss} (= *Bryophyta*, a <u>spongy soft green plant</u>)

 $[\]frac{141}{ripeness} \frac{ringeness}{res} - \frac{ringeness}{res} + \frac{ringeness}{ripeness} + \frac{ringeness}{ringeness} + \frac{ringenes}{ringeness} + \frac{ringenes}{ringenes} + \frac{ringenes}{ringeness} +$

to the core – to the centre, (in this case) completely

¹⁴⁴ to swell sth. – di<u>late</u> sth., expand sth.

¹⁴⁵ gourd /go:^rd/ – $\underline{mar}row/\underline{squash}$, courgette/zucchini or $\underline{pump}kin$

¹⁴⁶ to plump sth. – <u>fat</u>ten sth., <u>make</u> sth. <u>bigg</u>er

¹⁴⁷ <u>hazel</u> /'heizəl/ <u>shell</u> – the <u>hard outer cover of ha</u>zelnuts

¹⁴⁸ kernel – (*in this case*) <u>ha</u>zelnut

¹⁴⁹ to <u>set budding</u> (set-set-set) – <u>cause</u> flowers to <u>bloom</u> (= <u>blos</u>som)

¹⁵⁰ <u>later – (in this case) late-blos</u>soming, <u>late-flo</u>wering

¹⁵¹ o'er<u>brimmed</u> – over<u>brimmed</u>, <u>overfull</u>, <u>filled</u> to over<u>flo</u>wing

¹⁵² <u>clammy – moist</u> and <u>sticky</u> (be<u>cause</u> they are <u>full</u> of <u>ho</u>ney)

¹⁵³ $\overline{\text{cells}}$ – (*in this case*) the he<u>xag</u>onal compartments in a <u>bee</u>hive

HIGH AUTUMN – harvesting and storing – visual imagery – personified Autumn and human work. The human is part of nature, not antagonistic to it.

Who hath¹⁵⁴ not seen thee¹⁵⁵ oft¹⁵⁶ amid¹⁵⁷ thy¹⁵⁸ store¹⁵⁹? Sometimes whoever seeks abroad¹⁶⁰ may find Thee sitting careless¹⁶¹ on a granary¹⁶² floor, Thy hair soft-lifted¹⁶³ by the winnowing¹⁶⁴ wind; Or on a half-reaped¹⁶⁵ furrow¹⁶⁶ sound asleep¹⁶⁷, Drowsed¹⁶⁸ with the fume¹⁶⁹ of poppies¹⁷⁰,¹⁷¹ while thy hook¹⁷² Spares¹⁷³ the next swath¹⁷⁴ and all its twinèd¹⁷⁵ flowers; And sometimes like a gleaner¹⁷⁶ thou dost keep¹⁷⁷ Steady¹⁷⁸ thy laden¹⁷⁹ head across a brook¹⁸⁰; Or by a cider-press¹⁸¹, with patient look, Thou¹⁸² watchest¹⁸³ the last oozings¹⁸⁴, hours by hours.

¹⁵⁶ oft – (archaic) often

¹⁵⁸ thy – (archaic) your

¹⁵⁴ hath – (archaic) has

¹⁵⁵ **thee** – (*archaic*) you

¹⁵⁷ a<u>mid</u> – in the <u>mid</u>dle of (*in this case*) in

¹⁵⁹ (grain) store – <u>granary;</u> a<u>bun</u>dant <u>har</u>vest

 $[\]frac{160}{100}$ to <u>seek</u> a<u>broad</u> (seek-sought-sought) – <u>try</u> to <u>find</u> in the <u>coun</u>tryside

¹⁶¹ <u>careless – (*in this context*) a. carefree, b. physically relaxed</u>

¹⁶² granary – place where grain is stored

¹⁶³ <u>soft-lifted</u> – gently raised

 $[\]frac{164}{\text{winnowing} - (literally)}$ separating the <u>chaff</u> from the <u>grain</u>, (*in this case*) gently <u>lifting up</u> her <u>hair</u>

 $[\]frac{165}{\text{half}}$ -reaped – <u>par</u>tially <u>cut/ga</u>thered

¹⁶⁶ <u>furrow – long narrow trench made</u> in the ground by a <u>plough</u> (for <u>planting seeds</u> or for irrigation)

 $[\]frac{167}{\text{sound asleep}} - \frac{\text{fast asleep, sleeping deeply}}{168}$

¹⁶⁸ to drowse – <u>make som</u>nolent/le<u>tharg</u>ic

fume – (*in this case*) <u>per</u>fume, scent

¹⁷⁰ **poppy** – (*Papaver*) red wild flower

¹⁷¹ the lethargy of Autumn is compared to opium; Keats is confusing the field poppy with the opium poppy

¹⁷² (<u>reaping-)hook</u> – (*in this case*) <u>sickle</u>

¹⁷³ to spare – <u>amnesty</u>, <u>par</u>don, not cut

 $[\]frac{174}{174}$ swath – the <u>quantity</u> of <u>standing corn</u> that can be <u>cut</u> with a <u>single stroke</u> of a <u>scythe</u> or <u>reaping-hook</u>

¹⁷⁵ <u>twi</u>nèd /'twainid/ – <u>spi</u>ralling <u>round</u>

 $[\]frac{176}{\text{glea}\text{ner}}$ - sb. who collects the useful remnants of a harvest that has been left by the reapers

¹⁷⁷ thou dost <u>keep</u> – (*archaic*) you <u>keep</u>

¹⁷⁸ to <u>steady</u> – adjust sth. so that it is more balanced

¹⁷⁹ laden /'leidən/ – weighed down, <u>car</u>rying a <u>load</u>

¹⁸⁰ brook – stream, <u>small river</u>

¹⁸¹ <u>cider-press</u> – machine for <u>crushing apples</u> to extract apple juice with which to make cider

¹⁸² thou – (archaic) you

¹⁸³ watchest – (archaic) watch, observe

 $[\]frac{184}{100}$ <u>oozings</u> – <u>slow flow</u> of the <u>apple juice coming out</u> of the <u>cider-press</u>

LATE AUTUMN – barrenness – auditory imagery – description of the sky and the air. Birds and insects sing an elegy to Autumn.

Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they? Think not of them, **thou hast**¹⁸⁵ **thy**¹⁸⁶ music too, – While **barrèd clouds**¹⁸⁷ **bloom**¹⁸⁸ the soft-dying day And touch the **stubble-plains**¹⁸⁹ with **rosy**¹⁹⁰ **hue**¹⁹¹; Then in a **wailful choir the small gnats**¹⁹² mourn¹⁹³ Among the river sallows¹⁹⁴, borne aloft¹⁹⁵ Or **sinking**¹⁹⁶ as the light wind lives or dies; And **full-grown lambs**¹⁹⁷ loud **bleat**¹⁹⁸ from **hilly bourn**¹⁹⁹; Hedge-crickets²⁰⁰ sing, and now with treble²⁰¹ soft The redbreast²⁰² whistles²⁰³ from a garden-croft²⁰⁴; And gathering²⁰⁵ swallows²⁰⁶ twitter²⁰⁷ in the skies.

¹⁸⁵ thou <u>hast</u> – (archaic) you <u>have</u>

¹⁸⁶ thy – (*archaic*) your

¹⁸⁷ <u>bar</u>rèd /ba:rid/ clouds – cirro<u>cu</u>mulus <u>clouds</u>

¹⁸⁸ to bloom – (in this case) shed a warm, hazy light

 $[\]frac{189}{190} \frac{\text{stubble-plains} - \text{fields}}{\text{rosy} - \text{pinkish-red}} = \frac{1}{100} \frac$

¹⁹¹ hue – <u>co</u>lour, shade

¹⁹² gnat – (*Dipterid*) very small insect that flies in swarms (= big groups)

¹⁹³ wailful choir... mourn – the faint sound made by the insects' wings has a mournful effect, but Keats may also be suggesting that they are lamenting the dying of the year

¹⁹⁴ <u>sallow</u> – (*Salix cinerea*) <u>type</u> of <u>willow tree</u>

¹⁹⁵ to be <u>borne aloft</u> – be <u>car</u>ried <u>high</u>

¹⁹⁶ to sink (sink-sank-sunk) – descend

¹⁹⁷ full-grown lamb /læm/ – <u>young sheep</u> that was <u>born</u> in <u>Spring</u> (thus <u>marking the passing of time</u>)

¹⁹⁸ bleat – <u>cry</u> of a <u>lamb</u>

¹⁹⁹ bourn – boundary, (in Keats) domain, (in this case) the hills bounding the horizon

²⁰⁰ <u>cricket</u> [C] – (associated with winter)

²⁰¹ <u>tre</u>ble – <u>high-fre</u>quency, so<u>pra</u>no

²⁰² **red**breast – <u>ro</u>bins are as<u>so</u>ciated with <u>win</u>ter (*see photo*)

²⁰³ to whistle – (*in this case*) sing

²⁰⁴ garden-croft – walled garden

²⁰⁵ to <u>ga</u>ther – <u>con</u>gregate

 $[\]frac{206}{\text{swallow}} - (Hirundinidae) \text{ small fast bird like a swift or a house martin}$

²⁰⁷ to <u>twit</u>ter – sing