



An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

Death Works as a Living Character in Emily Dickinson's Poetry

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Abstract

This paper aims to explore the themes in Emily Dickinson's poetry to examine how death works as a character in her poetry. Emily Dickinson's poems Behind Me Dips Eternity, Death is a Supple Suitor, Death is Like the Insect, I heard a Fly buzz - when I died, I know He exists, Said Death to Passion and This World is not Conclusion are chosen to analyse in order to carry out the research. This paper revolves around the hypothesis that in Emily Dickinson's poetry death works as a living character. The selected poems are analysed on a qualitative basis, whereas textual analysis with close reading is used to find out Death description along with a discussion. The results show that in Emily Dickinson's poetry death works as a character that works as an agent in different forms who will unite her with God; in fact, she is not obsessed with death but is obsessed with God. Death is just a character that will help her unite her with Him. In her poetry, Death has been used as a symbol of compassion. Besides, Death has been personified as a kind of compassion. Throughout Emily Dickinson's poetry, Death is analysed as a connectivity from the mortal world to the immortal. In this study, the qualitative approach is used to analyse Emily Dickinson's poetry in depth.

Keywords: Death; Union; Soul; Mortality; Immortality.

1. Introduction

Emily Dickinson was born in the United States of America in 1838. In her youth, Emily Dickinson decided to live in complete isolation. Premalatha mentions in his article that she confined herself to her room and rarely met anybody or dressed in colourful clothes, and she became "the myth of Amherst" (Premalatha, 2012). Henceforth, she preferred a solitary life for twenty-five years. These years are seen through different studies that she wrote on death and immortality (Premalatha, 2012).

Furthermore, in her poems, Emily is observed to be a sensitive but isolated poet (Antony, 2012). She was not acclaimed during her life, but became renowned after her death, following the

publication of Thomas. H. Johnson's third edition of Dickinson's complete poems in 1952 (Antony, 2012). Many of her poems deal with death. Other poems explore themes of love, immortality, eternity, God, and nature. It seems that she had many questions in her mind, and she kept trying to find answers to those questions all her life, sitting in that particular room. One of those questions was about death.

Antony and Suchi Dewan call death a free agent; divine in nature and most powerful in its effect (Antony, 2012). Death is, therefore, a powerful agent that carries the soul to God. People usually fear death. Death involves biological, psychological, spiritual, societal, and cultural components; it is the only universal phenomenon that affects all of us (Wong, 2011). Subsequently, death had psychological effects on Emily and later, those psychological effects caused biological effects in the form of suicidal attempts. Perhaps this psychological effect caused her to write more than five hundred poems on death. Where did this psychological effect come from? Of course, she had witnessed many deaths in her life. This is what Nabil Mohammad Ali says in his article "Images of Death in the Poetry of Emily Dickinson" as "With the death of her immediate relatives and friends, she was very anxious to investigate every attitude towards death. She was seeking religious assurance, and asked if immortality was a fact" (Ali, 2009, p. 2). Nabil's assertion discloses that she wanted to investigate death and immortality. Immortality was also one of those questions she wanted to find answers to.

God was still another question in her mind. She had now stopped praying or worshipping God; she only believed in the realities around, because these realities were only there for disillusionment (Bhattacharya, 2014). Therefore, death was among the realities of her life. According to Rima Bhattacharya, her realities led her to disillusionment. Thus, there is a possibility that death would lead her to disillusionment. This is why Emily was so obsessed with death.

This research article will, therefore, investigate how Emily's obsession caused her to portray death as a living character in her poetry. This is the main goal of this research, death worked as a character in Dickinson's poetry.

2. Scope of the Study

This study is beneficial in numerous ways to identify the cause of the isolation of Emily Dickinson in her poems (see Introduction). Moreover, Emily's themes centre on death and immortality. According to Shafak (2009), we are not in search of death; rather, it is death that is in search of us. Moreover, she adds in her book, entitled *Forty Rules of Love*. So far, this study concerns the idea that death is an active agent. In a religious context, it is really man who has to leave this world. Similarly, in all the poems of Emily, it has been discussed that the fear of death keeps us from wrongdoings as well as towards immortality. The selected poems of Emily lead toward immortality (Further see Analysis). After studying the selected poems containing the themes of death, the researcher would explore that in Emily Dickinson's poetry, death is not only a theme, but also works as a character in her poetry. This research, in this way, has paved new ways for researchers to find further themes in Emily Dickinson's poetry.

3. Research Methodology

The study is based on a qualitative method to bring codes or symbols and themes which highlight death as an active character towards immortality. Investigate the research questions. For completing the research process, five poems of Emily Dickinson were chosen for analysis purposes. The research question deals with the research study, "In what ways does Emily Dickinson personify death as an active character in her poetry?". On the basis of this research question, this study is carried out

(Further see Analysis). Moreover, the object of this study is to underline poems related to death. The selected poems are *Behind Me Dips Eternity*, *Death is a Supple Suitor*, *Death is Like the Insect*, *I heard a Fly buzz - when I died*, *I know He exists*, *Said Death to Passion*, and *This World is not Conclusion*. Similarly, these selected poems are analysed on a thematic level to find the selected theme of death and eventually to find how death works in the above poems.

4. Analysis and Discussion

The analysis deals with the research question, “In what ways does Emily Dickenson personify death as an active character in her poetry?” This research question touches all the poems of Emily Dickenson in what ways she has dealt with death in her poems. The following poems help in analysing her cause of Isolation and Death. The poems *Behind Me Dips Eternity*, *Death is a Supple Suitor*, *Death is Like the Insect*, *I heard a Fly buzz - when I died*, *I know He exists*, *Said Death to Passion*, and *This World is not Conclusion*.

Shafak (2009) asserts that we are not in search of death; rather, it is death that is in search of us. Similarly, the works of Emily Dickenson lean towards Death. She sees death as a warning; besides, she teaches the lesson of the mystery behind death. According to Rajesh (2013), the theme of death is discussed metaphorically. Here, from Rajesh and Arun’s view, it has been found that death was used metaphorically by Emily Dickinson. In every poem, she seems to be pondering deeply into the facts of death. The following analyses how death works in the selected poems by Emily Dickinson.

4.1 Death is the Supple Suitor

This world is temporary. Everyone has to leave the mortal world. Similarly, this poem of Emily Dickenson *Death is the Supple Suitor* is about death, and she calls it a warning or regards death as a suitor. It is very clear from the title of the poem that Emily is actually going to deal death in this poem as a character. The answer to the question of why Emily was dealing with death is clear from Vivian’s point of view that Emily Dickinson was fascinated with death (Pollak, 1979). This fascination, then, led to the poetic creations of Emily Dickinson in which death appeared as different characters in different poems. In this poem, death comes in a carriage silently attended by a mute “Immortality” (Pollak, 1979). This shows that death is driving the carriage as a suitor to take Emily with him, and this carriage is actually attended by immortality. Therefore, death is highlighted as a kind-hearted suitor who comes silently, does his job silently and then goes back making a noise (funeral). As,

*“But brave at last with Bugles
And a bisected Coach
It bears away in triumph
To Truth unknown
And Kindred as responsive
As Porcelain”.* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 614).

In the above lines, death has been personified as a suitor who will ultimately succeed in taking her with him, as this union is arranged by God himself. Subsequently, she refers to it as “Truth unknown”. The analysis of the poem further suggests that the character of death comes as a suitor sent by God, and he aims to take her to God. Here in these poems, she teaches the lesson of awareness towards immortality. In this study, the researcher highlights Emily’s message that she teaches the lesson of immortality, reminding us that death comes to all eventually.

4.2 I heard a Fly buzz - when I died

I heard a Fly buzz - when I died is another death poem by Emily Dickinson. In this poem, death has again been given the attributes of a living character. In this poem, the narrator is talking about her death. This is a ceremony of death in which the soul is the host of the mighty guest that is death (Antony, 2012). As per Omana and Antony's views, death is again given the attributes of a living character. This character is invited to a death ceremony whose host is none other than the narrator's own soul. Emily, in this poem, has clearly regarded the guest as a mighty king. Consequently, it is clear to mention that death has been attributed as a living character (a mighty king). As,

*"For that last Onset - when the King
Be witnessed - in the Room"* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 223).

According to the narrator's perspective, her soul is a host that is waiting for the mighty king, that is, in fact, the mighty death, to come into the room in which the ceremony of death is being held. From Omana and Antony's analysis, it is also found that one more interesting fact about this poem is that Dickinson did not consider death as a cruel being, but instead she considered him a king who was kind to her. That is why, in Omana and Antony's view, a ceremony was held in honour of the mighty death. Further analysis of the poem stated that the king actually came to that ceremony, but a fly buzz interrupted the ceremony. As,

*"I willed my Keepsakes - Signed away
What portion of me be
Assignable - and then it was
There interposed a Fly"* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 223).

James (2012) also believes that this fly has interrupted the narrator to see the "Mighty King" and also deposed him. All of this analysis, thus, proves that, in the poem *I Heard a Fly Buzz When I Died*, death has been portrayed as a character. The character of a mighty king.

4.3 Death is Like the Insect

The analysis of the poem 'Death is Like the Insect' compares death to an insect. Starting from the title of the poem, Emily has used the metaphor of an insect to show the character of death, as she calls death an insect. Insect is used as a metaphor of death, and the tree shows life (Khaangku, 2011). In this poem, therefore, Emily has given the character of an insect to death and that of a tree to life. Emily, then, constructs very beautifully her viewpoint about death, that death is such a parasite that keeps eating up the life, and at last it wins in its struggle. Death is not to be defeated by life. She tells us that death is a competent character who keeps on killing as a parasite kills a tree. As,

*"Death is like the insect
Menacing the tree,
Competent to kill it,
But decoyed may be"* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 696).

Khaangku believes that Emily has used the tree to represent life in order to show that life is not able to run away from death (Khaangku, 2011). Hence, Emily has illustrated death as a powerful and mighty character, as an insect that knows nothing but to kill.

4.4 Said Death to Passion

Emily, in her death poems, treats death not only as a reality and an aspect of nature, but also she treated the death as a living character. This character appears in different shapes and forms in her

different poems. In *Said Death to Passion*, Emily introduces death as a living character. She has personified death in this poem. Another character is passion, which has also been personified in the poem (Dickinson, 1945). The title suggests that death is speaking to passion. There is a kind of discussion between the two personified characters. Nabil Muhammad believes that Emily gives death the characteristics of human beings in order to understand the nature of death (Ali, 2009). This proves that Emily often uses metaphors and personifications in such a way that death becomes an active character in her poetry. In this poem, there is a dialogue between death and passion. Death is asking for the passion to grant him some aptitude of passion. The passion in his reply clearly rejects death. As,

*"Said Death to Passion
Give of thine an Acre unto me.
Said Passion, through contracting Breaths
A Thousand Times Thee Nay"* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 473).

In the following lines, the analysis lucidly illustrates the real character of death, its role and the purpose of this character.

*"Bore Death from Passion
All His East
He - sovereign as the Sun
Resituated in the West"* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 473).

Here, Emily is referring to the death as "He". She is giving death the status of a living character. It can be concluded here that in this poem *Said Death to Passion*, again, death has been built as a character that has specific qualities resembling those of a living character.

4.5 Because I could not stop for Death

Like the poem discussed above, Emily, in "Because I could not stop for Death poem, calls the character of death as "He". This is because Emily does not consider death as an abstract idea, but rather she strongly considers death as a living character whom she calls "He". The previous analysis of the poems also supports this argument, for example, as in *I Heard a Fly Buzz When I Died* Emily has considered death as a mighty king.

Emily says that "He" comes in a carriage to take her with him. In this carriage, there are three characters altogether: death, the narrator and immortality. This description also enables us to further understand the character of death. Subsequently, the fact is that death is not an ordinary character, but it is a powerful character who will take the narrator towards immortality. As God is immortal, it is crucial to say that death, along with immortality, is taking the narrator towards God. Their ultimate destination is God himself. As,

*"Because I could not stop for Death –
He kindly stopped for me –
The Carriage held but just Ourselves –
And Immortality"* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 350).

In the following lines of the poem, the narrator elucidates that "He" was really polite to her. "He" was not in haste, but he behaved politely and with love. The narrator mentions that she had also accompanied the death happily. These are actually the characteristics of a living character. It is a character who comes in a carriage to take someone with him. An abstract idea cannot be so strong.

"We slowly drove – He knew no haste

*And I had put away
My labour and my leisure too,
For His Civility*" (p. 350)

Similarly, Gire (2014) believes that the poet has compared death to a loving suitor; while the funeral process is a wedding procession. It is clear from Gire's point of view that death is a character having the qualities of a loving suitor.

The last stanza of this poem is of great importance. Death comes as a suitor, takes the narrator with her and passes from various places. A question arises: where is death taking the narrator? The answer to this question has been given in the last stanza. As,

*"Since then – 'tis Centuries – and yet
Feels shorter than the Day
I first surmised the Horses' Heads
Were toward Eternity"* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 350).

The poet is clearly telling us that the heads of the horses were towards eternity. To analyse further that the character of death is only an agent who is here to take the poet to eternity. Death is taking them towards immortality, and it is not something to fear, but rather something to expect (Rajesh, 2013). Here again immortality is also referred to the God, since God is also immortal. As a result, death, a loving suitor, is taking the carriage towards immortality. The poem describes Emily Dickinson's favourite subject, the effect of death upon a human being. "Instead of the human fear or religious awe usually associated with death, death is portrayed as a restful trip, a pleasant journey with a courteous visitor and an unnoticed third traveller, immortality" (Rajesh, 2013, p. 111).

4.6 Behind Me – dips Eternity

In this poem, Emily discusses death and immortality. This poem shows the actual working of death. In this poem, she has narrated that all living beings come into this world from eternity, live their life in this world, and after this, they return to immortality. Death, according to Emily, is an agent that takes her to immortality. In the first stanza, she says that she came from eternity. After living her life, she will return to immortality. She came from eternity, which means that she was not a mortal before birth, but she became a mortal after birth. She owes a death as a great agent, who takes her back to immortality. As,

*"Behind Me—dips Eternity
Before Me—Immortality
Death but the Drift of Eastern Gray,
Dissolving into Dawn away,
Before the West begin"* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 353).

Here, she calls death an eastern grey. Based on the above poems, she believes she comes from eternity and will return to immortality with the help of the agent of death. In the following stanzas, she says that death will take her to the kingdom of "Son of None", i.e., God himself. Thackerey (1954) believes that Dickinson mostly consisted of the themes of love, death, nature and immortality. This shows that immortality is also one of the themes on which Dickinson writes. In *Behind me Dips Eternity*, Emily has written on the theme of immortality. An interesting fact is that she has linked the character of death to immortality. She believes that death will take her to immortality. Emily, in this poem, calls immortality and eternity a miracle (p. 353).

The above-mentioned poems of Emily Dickinson have been analysed critically. These poems have made it clear that death is not just an ordinary concept or obsession in Emily's poetry, but death works as a character in her poetry. The analysis of her death poems further revealed that the character of death is playing the role of an agent to take the soul of the dead to someone really powerful, as it is illustrated in the previous poem *Behind me Dips Eternity* and *Because I could not Stop for Death*. Deep analysis of her poems makes it clear who the powerful being is to whom Emily refers in her poetry and from whom the agent of death takes its instructions.

4.7 I know that He Exists

This poem by Emily Dickinson is about the existence of God. Here, "He" in the title is none other than God himself. Emily is claiming that "He" exists (Dickinson, 1945). The existence of God has always been a question for human beings. Emily was also interested in finding the answer to this question. "God's essence lies beyond mankind's reach" (Bhattacharya, 2014, p. 72). The letters of Emily Dickinson and her poetry always deal with the problem of faith, identity of the soul and God (Ali, 2009). This shows that the character of God is also there, who succeeds in catching the attention of Emily Dickinson. As,

*"I know that He exists.
Somewhere – in silence –
He has hidden his rare life
From our gross eyes"* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 338).

These lines make it clear that in this poem, "He" is none other than God. Emily is claiming that he exists, but is not visible to our eyes. The following lines are highly suggestive in this regard; they make it very clear that the character of death developed by Emily in the previously discussed poems was there just to perform the role of an agent that takes the narrator to God. As,

*"Tis an instant's play –
'Tis a fond Ambush –
Just to make Bliss
Earn her own surprise!"* (p. 338).

In these lines, Emily highlights that to die is a matter of some moments. She knows how to meet God, and she knows that it is a matter of moments. The moments taken by death to kill her and then death itself will be surprised to see Emily meeting God. "Just to make Bliss", "Earn her own surprise"! (p. 338). In the following lines of the poem, Emily clearly talks about death and its severity. She says that although death is painful and rigid, she will get pleasure out of it. As,

*"But – should the play
Prove piercing earnest –
Should the glee – glaze –
In Death's – stiff – stare –"* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 338).

In the last stanza, Emily calls death fun. She calls this fun and not too expensive. She further tells the reader that death is not very expensive, because it will enable her to solve the riddle, the riddle proposed in the first stanza. "I Know that He Exists" (p. 338). After this fun with death, Emily will be able to find the one who exists, but he is not visible. "He has hid his rare life", "From our gross eyes" (p. 338). As,

*"Would not the fun
Look too expensive!"*

*Would not the jest –
Have crawled too far!”* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 338).

This poem has proved that Emily develops her character of death as a living character, because she believes that death will take her to immortality, i.e. to God. In the first stanza, she claims that “He” exists. In the last stanza, she proved that she can see him only when she has looked in death’s “Stiff” eyes. Death is not a fearful end, but the necessary step to enter into the world of eternal tranquillity (Hirai, 2006). Similarly, Hirai believes that Emily used the character of death to enter the world of tranquillity. Emily says in *Behind me Dips Eternity* that the world of tranquillity is governed by “Son of None”, i.e., God himself (Dickinson, 1945).

4.8 This World is not a Conclusion

Emily Dickinson writes miracles with her poetry (Chari, 2014). This poem can also be categorised among such poems about which Chari is talking. Emily believes that the world is not a conclusion. It becomes clear from this argument that Emily’s claim is suggesting that there must be another world after this world. Perhaps this might be the reason for Emily’s obsession with death. It is analysed above in several poems that Emily has introduced death as a character that will take her to God. The character who is responsible for making her meet God. In connection with those poems, we can say that Emily is claiming that this world is not the conclusion, because she believes that God lives in the next world. The first three lines define that she calls God a “Species” and then tells about the characteristics of that species, i.e. the God: “Invisible as Music”, “Positive, as Sound”. This shows that Emily has no negative thoughts about God. This might be the reason for Emily’s obsession with death because she wanted to unite with a positive, mighty species that is God. This poem actually shows the strong faith of Emily Dickinson in God (Cash, 2010). As,

“This World is not Conclusion.
A Species stands beyond -
Invisible, as Music -
But positive, as Sound” (Dickinson, 1945, p. 243).

Emily narrates that the existence of God has always been a question for scholars and philosophers. It has been a puzzle and a riddle. As,

*“Philosophy, don't know -
And through a Riddle, at the last -
Sagacity, must go -
To guess it, puzzles scholars”* (Dickinson, 1945, p. 243).

From the above poems, this study focuses on how Emily Dickenson is religious. She has taken it to God. Therefore, she believes that fear of death is the fear of God. Henceforth, Emily believed in the existence of God. She had a belief that there is a world after this world where she would live forever. Perhaps this was the reason for her suicide attempts.

5. Results and Findings

The analysis of this study consists of a research question, i.e., In what ways does Emily Dickenson personify death as an active character in her poetry? Similarly, the object of this paper is to see death as a living character or symbol (Further see, Analysis and Discussion). Moreover, the poems of Emily Dickenson make it clear that in these poems, death has been portrayed as a living character. Emily built these characters in various ways. The analysis of Death as a Supple Suitor suggests that Emily

portrays Death as a suitor—the suitor that is polite and loving (Dickinson, 1945). In *I Heard a Fly Buzz as I Died*, Emily has portrayed the character of death as a mighty king, who will come to the ceremony of her death (Dickinson, 1945). This mighty king is present to take her soul with her. The analysis also shows that Emily does not think that dying is a painful thing or that death is some cruel thing, but she thinks of death as a loving being. Death is the most notable theme in her poetry (Khaangku, 2011).

In the following poem 'Death is like the Insect' death has been given the character of an insect. Here, Emily regards life as a tree. The insect of death is silently eating up the tree of life. At the end, this insect will win and the tree will be defeated. It is interesting to note that Emily often chooses her metaphors from natural instances. “She used her metaphors from various sources and numerous natural instances to be suited for her poetic needs to give complete meaning to her conceived thoughts” (Chari, 2014, p. 142). In this poem, she has also used natural phenomena to build the character of death. In *Said Death to Passion*, Emily has personified death. Death is talking to passion in this poem. This personification also shows that death is not just a natural phenomenon, but rather it is built as a character. Because I could not stop for Death, it is one of the most important poems in this regard. In this poem, again, the character of death is portrayed as a suitor. Mayer says, “She is not only trying to imagine life after death but she is using the largest possible imagined perspective to define what a self might be” (Mayer, 2013, p. 90). This poem led us to find the reason Emily builds the character of death as a living character. The analysis of this poem leaves one with the finding that the character of death is built as a living character to perform the role of an agent that is responsible for taking the soul to God. The other question that arose while investigating major research questions is what the actual function of death is and who God or immortality is, in view of Emily? In order to find the answer to these questions, the researcher further analysed some poems, including *Behind Me dips Eternity*, *I Know He Exists*, and *This World is not the Conclusion*. The analysis of these poems revealed that death is not the actual obsession of Emily, but she was more obsessed with God or immortality. Life, death, immortality and God are some haunting questions for Emily (Bushgjojaj, 2015). In order to find answers to these questions, Emily has introduced a living character of death in her poetry and tried to find answers to the haunting questions. *I Know that He Exists* is an important poem in this regard. The analysis of this poem revealed that Emily knew that God exists and wanted to unite with him. Thus, she calls death a friend, a fun game that will help her solve the riddle. Death will enable her to prove her claim right. 'I Know that this World is not Conclusion' is another poem in which Emily affirms that God exists. In this poem, Emily again owes to death in order to be united with God. Referring to another poem, in which Emily personified herself as a bride, Premlatha states that Emily, who is a bride of death, enters into immortality and is wedded to God in paradise (Premlatha, 2012). This statement of Premlatha makes our argument even stronger, that Emily, in her poetry, builds death as a living character, hoping that this character will take her to God. So after careful analysis of the selected poems, it is very clear that death works as a living character in Emily's poetry. The other findings of her poems revealed that the character of death serves as an agent who will take the soul to God. This was a new finding revealed during the investigation of significant questions. It is important to mention that it was investigated separately and came up with the results that the new finding was absolutely right; the character of death played the role of an agent, who was responsible for taking the soul to God.

6. Conclusion

Emily Dickenson has revolutionised the inner world through his poems. Her poems stand as a profound exploration of the spiritual world where themes of death, immortality, nature, and love are

explored. These themes directly and indirectly touch the above themes. She has written about five hundred poems on the theme of death. In all of these poems, death has been represented uniquely. Henceforth, her poems reflect death, which is the connection of this world to another Death, for instance, the one in her poem '*I Know that this World is not Conclusion*'. Emily has portrayed death as a living character in her poetry. The analysis of the selected poems supports this argument. Death has been represented as a suitor in *Death is the Supple Suitor*; a polite lover and suitor in *Because I could not Stop for Death*; a mighty king in *I heard a Fly buzz — when I died*; a personified character in *Said Death to Passion*; and a character of an insect that is eating up the tree that represents life in *Death is Like the Insect*. The analysis of all these selected poems shows that death works as a living character in Emily Dickinson's poetry. She analysed the death because it is a human need to study and analyse life and death (McChesney, 2007). Nasim and Leila, in their article, discuss death in Emily's poetry.

As the readers of Dickinson will see, death in her poetry is not a vanishing term which goes to finish one's life, but it associates Dickinson with the actualisation of her identity. Hope and death are connected to each other, and it makes death a joyful subject to Dickinson. Many of her poems are about death but they try to actualize identity of the poet. Death is considered as gate to eternity and everlasting life. Dickinson uses death to actualize her identity (Doost and Jamili, 2014, p. 70).

This statement makes it clear that Emily sees death as joyful. Her religious and spiritual connectivity led her to all poems to death.

The further analysis of the poems, such as *I Know that He Exists, Behind Me -- dips Eternity*, and *This World is not Conclusion* shows that Emily introduces the character of death, because she thinks that death is an agent that would take her to God. She considers death as a friend, suitor and playful thing that helps to solve the riddle of God. In short, the analysis of the death poems reveals that death is introduced as a character in Emily's poetry, and the purpose of this character is only to take her to God.

Emily Dickinson's poetry reflects spirituality. All her poems metaphorically give us the inner world of the poet. She has a strong faith in religion. Besides, she uplifts religion through nourishment of the soul. The more your soul is purified, the more you will get spirituality. Her solitary life was the leading cause of her detachment from spirituality (further, see Introduction). Moreover, she compels her readers and followers to engage in a private dialogue with the divine. This becomes possible through the company of a pious and isolated life, as all her poems reflect her isolation for inner satisfaction, which leads her to immortality.

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