**A SLUMBER DID MY SPIRIT SEAL**

**By- *William Wordsworth***

**INTRODUCTION**

This poem is about the death of a loved one of William Wordsworth. How does the poet think when he thinks about her death? How does he feel grieved? How it makes his soul a seal and what makes him relieved and at peace is the theme of this poem?

This is one of the ‘Lucy poems’ written by William Wordsworth. These poems have been dedicated to his beloved. The poet refers to death which is a permanent sleep. The poet did not realize when his beloved Lucy slept forever i.e. she died. She had taken life for granted and realized this harsh truth of life after her death.  ****

**Summary:**

William Wordsworth loved a small imaginary girl Lucy very much. Her death put a great effect on him. The poet says that her deep sleep has made his soul a seal. Her death has made him so insensitive that he can’t realize human fears. He says that the child can’t have any feeling of this earthly time because she has died. Now she can’t hear or see anything. But the poet consoles himself with the thought that she has become a permanent part of nature. She moves in this cosmos as the earth does on its axes in a daily routine. She is moving with the rocks, stones and trees all the time.

The poet’s soul had drifted into deep sleep as he did not have any realization of the truth. He had taken life for granted and had never thought that one day death would take Lucy away from him. When she was taken away, he could not bear the loss.The poet accepts the truth that Lucy is no more. She is motionless, lifeless. She cannot see nor hear. She has been buried in the earth. She will assimilate into the earth and is rotating along with the earth. One day she will become one with the rocks, stones and trees that are a part of the Earth.

The poet admits that he was in a sort of a deep sleep because he did not fear the harsh reality of life. He had taken life for granted and had never thought that one day death could separate him from his beloved Lucy. For him she was like an immortal goddess who was unaffected by age and mortality.  
As she is dead, she lies motionless. She cannot hear or see. She has been buried in the earth and rotates along with the Earth. One day she will get assimilated with the trees, rocks and stones that are a part of the earth.

**Literary devices**

**1. Rhyme scheme** - abab cdcd  
**2. Alliteration** - The repetition of a consonant sound at the start of two or more consecutive words is called alliteration. The instances of alliteration are as follows -  
‘Spirit sealed’, ‘rolled round’

**3. Enjambment** - when a sentence continues into two or more lines ending without any punctuation marks, it is called Enjambment. The instances of enjambment are as follows -  
“She seemed a thing that could not feel  
The touch of earthly years.”

“Rolled round in earth’s diurnal course  
With rocks and stones and trees.”