
Ode on Melancholy Characters

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Beauty: Personified as a character who must die. It symbolizes the fleeting nature of beauty.

Joy: It describes someone who always says goodbye; joy never stays long.

Pleasure: It is also personified. It stands close to pain, turning into poison while being enjoyed.

Proserpine: (Greek name Persephone) A direct mythological figure. She is the Roman goddess of the underworld. She connected to nightshade (a poisonous plant).

Psyche: She is the Wife of God Cupid (Eros). Referenced as a “mournful Psyche” — from mythology. She symbolizes the soul, love, and emotional suffering.

