

"Ode to a Nightingale" Quotes

Writer: John Keats | Generated: Jan 26, 2026

"Thou wast not born for death, immortal Bird!"

Explanation:

This line emphasizes the eternal nature of the nightingale's song and its ability to transcend mortality.

***"Away! away! for I will fly to thee,
Not charioted by Bacchus and his pards,
But on the viewless wings of Poesy,"***

Explanation:

The speaker wants to fly to the nightingale, not through physical means like Bacchus's wine-fueled celebrations, but by the spiritual power of poetry.

"Forlorn! the very word is like a bell."

Explanation:

This line conveys that the word "forlorn" has a melancholic and resonant quality. It illustrates the power of language in evoking emotions.

***"Was it a vision, or a waking dream?
Fled is that music:—Do I wake or sleep?"***

Explanation:

In these lines from John Keats' poem, he questions whether the experience of hearing the nightingale's music was a vivid vision or a dream and whether their current state is one of wakefulness or

sleep.

Lx Notes