

QUICK CARD:

EMILY



Reference	<i>Emily</i> , Michael Bedard. (1992) ISBN: 978-0440417408
Plot	A young girl and her family move nextdoor to the poet and recluse, Emily Dickinson.
Setting	The narrator's childhood In the late 1800s, Amherst, Massachusetts In a neighborhood .
Characters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Narrator, a young girl • The narrator's mother and father • Emily Dickinson, aka The Moth, who was a famous American poet and the girl's next door neighbor • Emily's sister
Conflict	Man vs. Society /Man vs. Self – Emily Dickinson fears people. The narrator, who tries to understand why, fears meeting Emily, too.
Theme	The hidden life in things and people: “Maybe people are a mystery, too, sometimes.”
Literary Devices	Metaphor – “Our dresses were both snow.” The mud puddles are mirrors. Simile – “My heart beat quickly as a little bird's.” “Like flakes of flowers the words fell to the sheets. I listened to them fall and fell asleep.” The words are like the flaking flowers; she falls like the words.

	<p>“No, you are poetry...”</p> <p>Imagery – “Perhaps in time they will both bloom.” “The sound of clapping rippled down the stairs...” “The road was full of mud and mirrors where the sky peeked at itself. The yellow house slipped down behind the hedge as we came near.” The latter of the above images underscores the shrinking nature of the recluse that the yellow house keeps.</p> <p>Synesthesia – conflating one type of sense with another separate sense in an illogical way to create a figurative impression: “The air was dizzy with their purple smell.”</p> <p>Metonymy – naming a thing by something with which it is associated, rather than by its own name: “I turned and saw a rush of white escaping up the stairs.” The white is Emily.</p> <p>Alliteration – “I sat upon the <i>parlor</i> chair. Still the music <i>played</i> ...My hand felt in my <i>pocket</i>. I thought of sunlight dancing on the sun-room floor, of Father <i>plucking petals</i>, and of <i>poetry</i>.” “Music <i>drifted</i> through the <i>darkened</i> room.”</p> <p>Personification – “Still the music played– but now I felt it breathe.” “...the sky peeked at itself.” Mother’s dress “whispered when she walked.”</p> <p>Onomatopoeia – The girl’s pockets bulged.</p> <p>The poem at the end of the story has meter (iambic) and rhyme (ABAB). Likewise, it contains metaphor and irony: “For Angels rent the House next ours, / Wherever we remove.”</p>
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