

The Skylark

The earth was green, the sky was blue:
I saw and heard one sunny morn,
A skylark hang between the two,
A singing speck above the corn;

A stage below, in gay accord,
White butterflies danced on the wing,
And still the singing skylark soared,
And silent sank and soared to sing.

The cornfield stretched a tender green
To right and left beside my walks;
I knew he had a nest unseen
Somewhere among the million stalks:

And as I paused to hear his song,
While swift the sunny moments slid,
Perhaps his mate sat listening long,
And listened longer than I did.

by Christina Rossetti

Name: Date:

Read and enjoy the poem. The Skylark by Christina Rossetti. Then read it again, and again!
Respond to the following questions.

1. What season could it be? What makes you think that?

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2. What is a skylark?

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3. What does the poet mean by the line:

‘A skylark hang between the two’?

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4. Why is the skylark like a ‘speck’?

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5. What is being described as a stage?

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6. What does the word 'soars' mean?

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7. What can the poet see on either side of her?

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8. What is happening to the daylight when the poet describes it with
'While swift the sunny moments slid'?

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9. Who do you think is 'his mate'?

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10. What do you think the skylark's song was like?

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