

Because I could not stop for Death

by Emily Dickinson

*Because I could not stop for Death,
He kindly stopped for me;
The carriage held but just ourselves
And Immortality.*

*We slowly drove, he knew no haste,
And I had put away
My labor, and my leisure too,
For his civility.*

*We passed the school, where children strove
At recess, in the ring;
We passed the fields of gazing grain,
We passed the setting sun.*

*Or rather, he passed us;
The dews grew quivering and chill,
For only gossamer my gown,
My tippet only tulle.*

*We paused before a house that seemed
A swelling of the ground;
The roof was scarcely visible,
The cornice but a mound.*

*Since then 'tis centuries, and yet each
Feels shorter than the day
I first surmised the horses' heads
Were toward eternity.*