

ENGLISH



ON THE GRASSHOPPER AND CRICKET

~Summary~

-by John Keats

"On the Grasshopper and Cricket" is a **sonnet** written by **John Keats**. The poem uses **two insects**, namely **grasshopper** and **cricket**, to explain how nature's music is **eternal**.

During the **hot summer**, even when the **birds** known for their songs are worn out and hide among the **cooling trees**, nature's music is kept alive through a **grasshopper's** song. As the grasshopper sings, he moves through the **meadows**, pouncing from a hedge to another. As a result, his songs get carried around, and "**the poetry of earth**" survives through the blistering summer. Later, when the grasshopper is tired after all the fun he had, he goes to get some rest beneath some pleasant grass.

Soon, as the **winter** comes, nature's music is faced with another **existential** crisis. However, the frozen **silence** is broken through the song of a **cricket**. The cricket, whose song and appearance **resembles** that of a grasshopper, keeps the "poetry of earth" alive and reminds people of the warm summer evenings, which ignites **warmth** and **hope** in them.

Hence, the true **poetry of earth** is **life** in itself, and the **two** otherwise insignificant **insects** keep that poetry **alive**.



A grasshopper (top); and a cricket (bottom)

~Conclusion~

The poem teaches us that we shall be joyful and pleasant no matter what are the situations in our life.