

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# A Complaint

By William Wordsworth

There is a change and I am poor;  
Your love hath been, nor long ago,  
A fountain at my fond heart's door,  
Whose only business was to flow;  
And flow it did; not taking heed  
Of its own bounty, or my need.  
What happy moments did I count!  
Blest was I then all bliss above!  
Now, for that consecrated fount  
Of murmuring, sparkling, living love,  
What have I? Shall I dare to tell?  
A comfortless and hidden well.

A well of love it may be deep  
I trust it is, and never dry:  
What matter? If the waters sleep  
In silence and obscurity.  
Such change, and at the very door  
Of my fond heart, hath made me poor.

1. What is this poem about?

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2. What images does the poet use to create this meaning?

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## **ANSWERS**

1. Lost love. The speaker of the poem still loves someone that no longer loves him.
2. The fountain is a metaphor for “murmuring, sparkling, living” love. The “well” is a metaphor for the depths of love, but the love, which is deep, sleeps “in silence and obscurity.”