

The case of the knight & the beautiful woman without pity/mercy.

Introductory remarks: As a private detective, you have recently been hired by a knight to unravel a mystery. The knight met a beautiful mysterious woman one evening & fell madly in love her. She then disappeared without trace. He wants you to find out about what has happened to this strange damsel.

N.B. The knight will only pay a private detective who provides a detailed final written report.

Your brief.

The knight is devastated & can only remember very vague details about the bewitching woman & what she said & did to him. He was found wandering near some bushes by a lake. It was a silent place & the man who found the knight said that he was looking 'haggard' & slightly feverish. There were some strange red marks on his skin.

Here are some of the things the knight has said about the lady:

1. He described her as 'a faery's child' with long hair. *What type of person might look like this? What does it suggest about this character?*
2. Her eyes were 'wild'. *What do you understand by that? What does it imply about the lady?*
3. She was light footed & seemed to dance through the air. *Does this give you any clues?*
4. She had a garland of flowers around her head & around her wrist. *What does this suggest about her?*
5. She took him to her 'elfin grot'. *What sort of place do you think this is? Do these words remind you of anything or any place?*
6. She fed him a type of food called 'roots of relish sweet' and 'honey wild, and manna dew'. *What could that be like, do you think? What would it taste like?*
7. Finally she told the knight 'I love thee true'. *Do you believe her? Is there anything strange about these words?*
8. Then she started crying so much that it actually hurt her eyes and the knight had to kiss them to make them better. *Why was she crying do you think?*
9. The knight fell asleep & had a strange and frightening dream where people warned him about the maiden. *What might they have said?*

The written report (in pairs).

- Aim to write no less than 700 words.
- Be sure to use evidence from the poem to back up what you say.
- Use personal responses to the ten numbered bullet points above to explain, inform, detail & describe your own ideas/deduction.
- Explain clearly what sort of a character you think the maiden is & whether she's a suitable match for the knight.

DON'T...

- be afraid of revealing details which may shock your client, the knight.
- be afraid of using language in your report which helps cushion the knight's suffering.
- forget to discuss how the way the woman looked/behaved was symbolic/revealing of her character.
- forget to tell the knight if you think he will see this beautiful lady again.

