

The Lamb

Little Lamb who made thee
Dost thou know who made thee
Gave thee life and bid thee feed.
By the stream and o'er the mead;
Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing wooly bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice!
Little Lamb who made thee
Dost thou know who made thee

Little Lamb I'll tell thee,

Little Lamb I'll tell thee!

He is called by thy name,
For he calls himself a Lamb:
He is meek and he is mild,
He became a little child:
I a child and thou a lamb,
We are called by his name.
Little Lamb God bless thee.
Little Lamb God bless thee.

--William Blake

QUESTIONS

1. What is the theme of this poem?

2. What is the purpose of the poem?

3. What is the tone of this poem?

4. What question is posed by the poet that sets the tone for the rest of the poem?

5. What does the lamb symbolize in the poem?

Discussion questions

6. Analyse the use of imagery in the poem. Identify and discuss the various images William Blake uses to describe the lamb.

7. Discuss the religious undertones in the poem. Examine the references to the lamb of God and the Christian concept of Jesus as a sacrificial lamb.

8. Write a companion poem to "The Lamb" from the perspective of a different animal, such as a lion or an eagle.