

TSWIFT Poetry Analysis

	Text Evidence	Commentary
<u>T</u> itle	Love Song for Lucinda	It's probably a love song directed towards a lady named Lucinda
<u>S</u> tructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The poem consists of 3 stanzas of 6 lines each, following a ABCDEC rhyme scheme • "Love" is the first line of each stanza • The first 3 lines of each stanza describe love as a certain object • The final 3 lines of each stanza describe a dangerous aspect of the object 	Each stanza follows the same format, describing love as a pleasurable or attractive object, then contrasting that decision with a warning about a dangerous aspect of the object. This contrast conveys that love can provide pleasure, but can have harmful effects if misused.
<u>W</u> ord Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Ripe...spell" • "Glowing...burning" • "Windy...lose your breath" 	The speaker repeatedly utilizes words or phrases that contrast each other, one being associated with enjoyment or leisure and other with danger. This parallels the speaker's warning against misusing love, as its positive attributes hide its harmful effects.
<u>I</u> magery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "A ripe plum growing on a purple tree." • "A bright star glowing in far Southern skies" 	Each stanza paints a different depiction of love, presenting objects that have attractive appearances but hold hidden dangers. This reflects the speaker's message that while prospects of love can be appealing from the

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “A high mountain stark in a windy sky” 	outside, one must still be wary of their harmful potential.
<u>Figurative Language</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repetition of “Love is” 	This anaphora illustrates that love can come in many forms, further supporting the speaker’s claim that love can be appealing, but deceptive. The presented forms of love are very different from each other, but are all similar in the fact that they are visually appealing but cause physical harm.
<u>Theme</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The spell of its enchantment will never let you be” • “Do not climb too high” 	The poem’s theme is that while love can be appealing, overindulgence or rushing it can ultimately cause more harm than good. Each stanza ends in a warning, describing how being caught up in the appeals of love (the taste of the plum, the glow of the star, the height of the mountain) can result in getting hurt (becoming irrationally enchanted, burning your eyes, losing your breath).