

## Day 1- The Paintings of Majnun Layla

### Part 1- See-Think-Wonder

In groups of four, record what you see in the paintings, what you think about them, and what you wonder about them in the columns below.

See	Think	Wonder

### Part 2- Discussion

1. Have you heard a similar story before?
2. What characters from plays, operas or stories could you compare to Qays and Layla?
3. Do you know of any real people who have been through a similar ordeal?
4. Have you heard songs that are about a similar love story?

## Day 2- The Poetry

Read the following poems and excerpts:

I pass by these walls, the walls of Layla  
And I kiss this wall and that wall  
It's not Love of the houses that has taken my heart  
But of the One who dwells in those houses  
- Qays

O, she doth teach the torches to burn bright!  
It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night  
Like a rich jewel in an Ethiope's ear;  
Beauty too rich for use, for earth too dear!  
So shows a snowy dove trooping with crows,  
As yonder lady o'er her fellows shows.  
The measure done, I'll watch her place of stand,  
And, touching hers, make blessed my rude hand.  
Did my heart love till now? forswear it, sight!  
For I ne'er saw true beauty till this night.  
- Shakespeare (Romeo, upon seeing Juliet for the first time)

The day! The day!  
Hate and detestation  
of the envious day,  
the cruellest foe!  
Would that, as you quenched the torch,  
I could extinguish the glare  
of importunate daylight,  
to avenge all love's sorrows!  
Is there one grief  
or one pain  
that it does not awaken  
with its light?  
Even in the spreading  
splendour of night  
my beloved sheltered it at her house,  
reaching out to me like a threat.  
- R. Wagner (Tristan, during an aria in *Tristan and Isolde*)

**BCR- How can love be both wonderful and painful?**

