

Jane's Experience of Vengeance

Directions: Carefully read the following passage from chapter 4 of *Jane Eyre*. Then answer the questions.

Something of vengeance I had tasted for the first time. As aromatic wine it seemed, on swallowing, warm and racy; its after-flavour, metallic and corroding, gave me a sensation as if I had been poisoned.

1. What is vengeance?
2. What does the word *aromatic* mean?
3. What does it mean for something to be racy?
4. What gives Jane her first experience of vengeance?
5. What is her first reaction?
6. Then what does she experience?
7. Find a copy of William Blake's poem "The Poison Tree," and relate it to Jane's statement about vengeance.
8. Relate Jane's statement to other works of literature or to life today.