

Analysis of theme and imagery in Selected Romantic Poems

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Abstract: *This deviation from the norms of writing brought about impeccable changes. The focus on the natural and the supernatural is to emphasize on the beauty of life in which the Romanticists find themselves as imagistic and visionary. The writings of the Romanticists were filled with spontaneous flow of emotions which are expressed in solitude as their writings centre on the events they experienced in their lifetime right from their childhood to adulthood. In the romantic period the man can change their attitude and aptitude. It tackles for this sake selected poems by William Blake, William Wordsworth, Percy Bysshe Shelley and John Keats, aiming to highlight their passionate concern with realistic aspects of man and the city and to examine their poetic interaction with significant real incidents and situations. Nature helps to reduce the boredom of life through poems. Nature increases the efficiency of the people and brings enjoyment and amusement in the current hectic life.*

Key Words: *romantic, imagery, supernatural, visionary.*

1. INTRODUCTION:

Industrial Révolution provided jobs and technological innovations, something that would spread to the United States in the 19th century. Romanticisme was a reply against This spread of industrialism, as well as a criticism. Robert Burns Is considered the explorer of the Romantic Movement.. Among the odes, “Ode to a Nightingale” (1819) and “Ode on a Grecian Urn” (1819) are most famous.. Gothic Fiction During the second half of the 18th century, gothic fiction began to increase in popularity in Great Britain. William Wordsworth that are related to nature, they are: I Wandered Lonely As A Cloud, The Tables Turned, Lines Written in Early Spring, It Is A Beauteous Evening, and The World Is Too Much With Us.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF STUDY:

- Examine the thematic focus of selected Romantic poems and evaluate the various images
- Using the external to change the internal workings of man
- Appreciate the Romantic age
- To describe nature as an escape from the boredom of life through his poems
- To find out the nature as symbol of life freedom through his poems.
- To portrait gothic realm to make man free from fear through his poems

3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- 1 What is Romanticism?
- 2 What are the themes of the Romantic period?
- 3 How are imageries conveyed by Romanticists?
- 4 Who are the major writers of the Romantic period?

4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

An analytical method will be used in this research Texts will be analysed using the image-making, sound-making.

5. DISCUSSION:

5.1 AN ESCAPE FROM THE BOREDOM OF LIFE

As what has been explained in the history of Romanticism which is also known as the romantic era or romantic period, romanticism is an intellectual movement that originated Europe toward the end of the 18th William Wordsworth’s escape to nature has been influenced by the selfishness of man which has been dominated by the power of political will that victimize the weak. The cut of trees for the use of industry has made the forest bare and empty. The effect of wrong political will makes man suffered and flood happens because there is no tree to block the coming of water anymore. This phenomenon results some kinds of trouble that leads to destruction. The only way to escape from such trouble is to have fantasy by running away to the nature. and nature, preferring the medieval rather than the classical

.The characteristic of nature that gives freedom for an escapee like Wordsworth can be traced in the form of “cloud”, “vales”, “hills”, and “daffodils”, “lakes”, and “trees”. All this nature features or materials make Wordsworth play high to faraway world in his imagination. His fantasy goes to find the joy of nature through a dancing activity. This dancing activity implies the joy that brings an escape from the boredom of life. Such an expression is written down in first stanza of the poem. The expression can be found out in the last three lines of the last stanza that goes: Which is the bliss of solitude; and then my heart with pleasure fills, and dances with the daffodils. (“I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud”, fourth stanza) God is the only one who creates man to live in peace and love for all. The expression can be traced as follows: UNIVERSITAS SUMATERA UTARA The winds that will be howling at all hours, And are up-gathered now like sleeping flowers; For this, for everything, we are out of tune; It moves us not. Great God! I’d rather be (“The world is Too Much with us, lines 6-9)

5.2 NATURE AS A SYMBOL OF LIFE FREEDOM

It has been a natural symptom that in every cases of life there is pro and contra especially towards principles of life. It may take place because man never feels satisfied definite. Among any Descartes’ followers there is Rousseau who opposes the presence of ratio or science has put man to be isolated on his existence. The improvement of science and culture has guided man to loose his simple existence such as feelings, intuition, and individual sense in a large term. For this he suggested that man should return to nature where man might regain his identity in the presence of nature. In other word, nature is good to man. In nature where laws are of no existence, is there an autonomous and happy being. Wordsworth belongs to self-worshippers especially upon the presence of. And Wordsworth respects the nature for the nature the sake of his love on something available. Trying escape from the world of facts to a world of ideal where beauty and happiness are conjured up by his divine imagination, Wordsworth presents nature as a source of peace. The realization that happiness in this world is but an occasional episode in the general drama of pain is too much for them to bear. To forget the painful experiences of his life he escapes to nature and to the society of cottagers, mountains and dales’. The purity of whose soul and the elemental simplicity of whose life is not contaminated by the man-made artificial civilization. The mark UNIVERSITAS SUMATERA UTARA where Wordsworth feels the same with gothic is his respond on nature as a reciprocal dealing between man and nature. He tries to express from very deep of his heart nature never betray man to give simplicity and peace in unlimited sense

5.3 THE REALM OF GOTHIC

Wordsworth may be considered Gothic in the same vein as the other Dark Romantic writers. Moreover, his poetry as such betrays a more disturbed mind-set, one whose apparent declarations of optimism and spiritual superiority are transformed into a defensive pathology. The World Is Too Much With Us: The world is too much with us: late and soon, Wordsworth begins He continues, Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers little we see in Nature that is ours; In these lines, Wordsworth contrasts Nature with “The World”, a sordid boon! UNIVERSITAS SUMATERA UTARA believes that where we should enjoy nature, though it is not ours to for this, for everything, we are out of tune; It moves us not. — Great God! I’d rather be these lines are Wordsworth final exclamation that “we are out of tune” with nature because we are so caught up in worldly wealth. Here, he swears an oath that he would rather be a poor pagan than be so distracted by worldly wealth so as to render him unable to enjoy the true beauties of life. He appeals to God, and even exclaims that he would rather be a pagan than to be out of touch with nature. A Pagan suckled in a creed outworn; So might I, standing on this pleasant lea, Have glimpses that would make me less forlorn; Have sight of Proteus rising from the sea; In these final lines, Wordsworth reveals that if he were a poor pagan, he would have “glimpses” of nature that would give him joy and hope, or at least make him feel “less forlorn”. He would rather be poor and helpless and connected with nature than rich and powerful and alienated from it. Or hear old Triton blow his wreathed horn In the final two lines, he refers to two pagan gods. Would rather be a pagan than alienated from nature?

Romanticism:

A movement of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries that marked the reaction in literature, philosophy, art, religion, and politics from the neoclassicism and formal orthodoxy of the preceding period. Romanticism is above all a movement of ideas. The idea of revolution and the idea of nationalism. Reverence the nature, vegetarianism and environmental consciousness. Our dreams oscillate between lost and deep illusion O man, look at this monotonous world, how our fathers went without return Everything expands as fear does in the hearts of those who sleep on a bed of damned hunger and despair And you, my wounded poem, will my words sleep in deaf ears, or will they wander among the noise and hammers? I know that it takes years of false joy to end the pain, and I know that deceitful things do not make true joy Books fall from the shelves of minds and armies of ignorance return to control the again And the bird of fear re-fly’s in the skies of the safe to spread long sadness without justification. Evolution, democracy, and republicanism the motto of the French Revolution— liberty, equality, fraternity a number of Romantic-era writers, caught up in the democratic spirit of the age took up.

The Sublime and Transcendence

Many artists during the Romantic period became fascinated with the notion of the “sublime,” a state they create in us complex feelings that mix terror with artists and intellectuals during this time sought out sublime experiences which, the power of the imagination, genius, and the source of inspiration. It was a given during the This quasi-spiritual explanation for par secularly creative and capable individuals pervades Romantic-era thinking about the human mind and the individual, particularly the “man of genius. “Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelley, and Keats—among others—wrote about the nature and power of Even the self-proclaimed atheist, Shelley, causing it to “sing” much as an Aeolian harp sings in a window on a breezy day. One of the more influential answers during the Romantic era was that nature was the dwelling place of God. This idea appears in all kinds of poetry and novels of the period in the form of hermits living How far does the artist control the “shaping spirit of imagination”? Solipsism, the sense that self-existence is the only certain and verifiable part of reality, was the inevitable outcome of the internalization of Romantic aspirations. Everything outside the self either has its own life or it is only a product of the self's awareness. Searching for a fresh source of this spontaneous feeling, Wordsworth rejects the Neo-classic idea of the appropriate subject for serious verse and turns to the simplicities of rustic life “because in that condition the passions of men are incorporated with the beautiful and permanent forms of nature. “in the universe as we In English literature, the key figures of the Romantic movement are considered to be the group of poets including William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, John Keats, Lord Byron, Percy Bysshe Shelley and the much older William Blake, followed later by the isolated figure of John Clare Exploring Blake's use of noun phrases for description You could use this sequence to support students' understanding of ‘linguistic analysis’, street Thames face weakness woe cry man infant fear ban manacles chimney sweeper church soldier sigh Professions/trades Confinement/imprisonment References to the body Institutions Look at the way Blake gives us midnight streets the youthful Harlot's curse the new-born infant's tear the Marriage hearse How does the (cry of fear; marks of woe) Are there any other language features that you would want to focus on? William Wordsworth Regarded as the founder and major voice of English Romanticism Appointed poet laureate in 1843 Central concern: the way in which contemplating nature and the lives of people connected with nature , simple lifestyles of rural communities Poetry = “...spontaneous overflow of emotion recollected in tranquillity...” written in the language of the common man Growth of human mind through individual's relation to natural world Verges of pantheistic God destruction of environment as a result of our endless quest for material prosperity An immoral blessing, a cheap, squalid and foul gift – a low and despicable thing to be grateful for Inadequate interaction with and appreciation of Nature – we are no longer able to see ourselves as part of METAPHOR – musical instrument – “out of tune” with the melodies and harmonies of the natural world, we do not live We are unmoved by the wind and its changeability These are the forces (the sea, the moon, the wind) that should exercise our intellectual and emotional energy Great God!

6. VALUES AND MORALS

Background of the Poet Name William Wordsworth Born 7 April 1770 Cocker moth, Cambria, England Died 23 April 1850 (aged 80) Cumberland, England Occupation Poet Alma Mater Cambridge University Literary Movement Romanticism Notable Works Lyrical. Poem: I Wondered Lonely as a Cloud (Stanza 1) I wandered lonely as a cloud That floats on high o'er vales and hills, the trees, Fluttering and dancing in the breeze. Poem: I Wondered Lonely as a Cloud (Stanza 2) The waves beside them danced; but they Out-did the sparkling waves in glee: brought: Poem: I Wondered Lonely as a Cloud (Stanza 3) For oft, when on my couch I lie In vacant or in pensive mood,. Poem: I Wondered Lonely as a Cloud (Stanza 4) Nature -In order to understand oneself and one's place in the universe, one must connect with nature. -Nature is beautiful, so it is important for us to appreciate it even when we are busy. Happiness we can still be happy even when we are lonely.

7. CONCLUSION:

The Romanticists believed in innovation and this is why they deviated from the norms of writing. The Romantic age and see it as, perhaps, an age of enlightenment which can be referred to as the soul and beginning of literary writings. Romantic period is the one of the indispensable period in the history of English literature. It can bring the happiness to the reader and reduce the monotony, solitude and desperate from the life .It change the life to happiness and joyfulness.

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