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Style of Writing and Perspective on Nature – A Perusal on Robert Frost

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ABSTRACT

This research paper has attempted to explore the writing style of the pre-eminent American poet, Robert Frost and his perspective on nature. The poet has bestowed through his words, a culmination of traits that identifies him as a poet with ardent passion towards humanity and nature. His combination of simplicity in language while evaluating the complexity in human life is analyzed, with respect to his inspiration, and the specific features as well as attitudes, he adorns his poems with, in which his perspective on nature is truly evident. The deeper meanings he unfolds through the revelation of connections between nature and mankind are illustrated through selected verses from Frost's poetry that further portrays the duality of nature which transcends time.

Keywords: Duality, Nature, Pastoral, Simplicity

INTRODUCTION

A celebrated American poet, Robert Frost showcases a writing style that is unique in its amalgamation of words that are simple yet embedded in meanings which illustrate the deep connections one shares with nature. His writing style is a combination of his personality which is a blend of seriousness and wit, comprehending the significance of the perennial nature and the temporal human beings. He puts forth the various characteristics of nature as a teacher, philosopher, guide and a medium to convey his thoughts. He sets himself apart from nature poets and identifies himself through his works as a pastoral poet, penning the deep cords between humans and nature, which makes his poems evergreen, rooted in the themes that are evergreen, imparting wisdom to man, regardless of age, retaining freshness even today by combining both terror and beauty.

Writing Style of Frost

Style of writing throws insight to the writer's character, experience and life. Frost's style brings together the boldness, wit and caution he often displays as a writer. His assertion on style can be perceived from his letter to his friend and advocate, Louis Untermeyer, published in the *Collected Poems, Prose and Plays*, in which he states that style of writing of a writer showcases him self and his opinions. John F. Lynen, author of *The Pastoral Art of Robert Frost*, in his work asserts that "Frost stands apart from other poets in the modern era that his sentences are clear, his verses form traditional, and language similar to everyday speech" (Lynen 2). Hence he employs plain usage of language which is neither complex nor incomprehensible. However the simplicity disappears when eyes are opened to deeper meanings that are concealed in his uncomplicated words.

Seriousness and self-effacing wit are combined in rhetoric and tone by Frost. His virtue was to write for the general reader. His phrasing is both colloquial and intimate. He pictures the task he has set for himself, neither in terms of money nor of fame but as a challenge to be judged outside a limited realm of self-approving literati. This is evident in his letter published in *Collected Poems, Prose and Plays*.

You mustn't take me too seriously if I now proceed to brag a bit about my exploit as a poet. There is one qualifying fact always to bear in mind: there is a kind of self-esteem and it butters no parsnips. It means a success with the critical few who are supposed to know. But really to arrive where I can stand on my legs as a poet and nothing else I must get outside that circle to the general reader who buys books in their thousands. I may not be able to do that. I believe in doing it – don't you doubt me there. I want to be a poet for all sorts and kinds. I could never make a merit of being a caviar to the crowd the way my quasi-friend Pound does. I want to reach out, and would if it were a thing I could do by taking though. So much by way of depreciation before I begin. (667-68)

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