

# Concept of Nature in William Wordsworth's Poetry

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One of the greatest Romantic poets of nature was William Wordsworth. Nature served as his mentor, friend, caregiver, and everything else. Unlike other poets, Wordsworth does not approach Nature lightly or in passing in his poems. He believed that nature possessed divine power and had a living personality. Wordsworth revered nature. Wordsworth never wavered in his devotion to nature during his lengthy poetic career. Through his poetry, he developed a novel and comprehensive philosophy of nature. Wordsworth thought that nature could teach us more about morality, evil, and good than all the philosophies combined. According to Wordsworth, "Nature is a teacher whose wisdom we can learn, and without which any human life is vain and incomplete." Rousseau had some influence on him in this. Wordsworth's perspective on both Nature and man depends heavily on this relationship between the two. 'Nature would always offer Wordsworth a sense of wholeness and what he called ... a "pleasant exercise of hope and joy",' writes Bate, echoing Matthew Arnold's veneration of Wordsworth as a poet of 'joy'. Wordsworth disapproved of the use of nature for artistic purposes and its reduction to the merely picturesque. He turned what we saw in nature into a spiritual experience.

Many of Wordsworth's poems, such as "Tintern Abbey" and "Daffodils," explore childhood in general and the adult's recollections of it in particular, focusing on childhood's lost connection to nature that can only be preserved in memory. Wordsworth uses a combination of natural landscapes, religious symbolism, and remnants of his rustic upbringing, such as cottages, hedgerows, orchards, and other locations where people and the natural world interact. The greatest positive influence on the human mind comes from nature. Every expression of the natural world inspires lofty, idealistic ideas and intense feelings. People who have a positive relationship with nature are better able to connect to the social and spiritual realms. Artificial social conventions and the filth of city life corrode humanity's natural empathy and nobility of spirit. On the other hand, individuals who spend a lot of time in nature manage to keep their souls pure and noble. In the 1798 poem "Lines Composed a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey," the speaker uses recollections of nature to combat his loneliness. Wordsworth outlined the connection between poetry and the mind in the Lyrical Ballads preface from 1802. "Poetry is

emotion recollected in tranquillity” that is, the mind turns experience's unadulterated feelings into poetry that is enjoyable. A child who grows up in the embrace of nature, in his opinion, is the embodiment of the ideal man. Childhood is portrayed in Wordsworth's poetry as a wonderful, magical period of innocence. Youngsters develop a strong bond with the natural world, making them seem more like a part of it than of the human, social world. They have an intense bond with the natural world. Children lose this connection as they grow older and mature, but they also acquire the capacity to feel emotions. The ability of the human mind, especially memory, allows adults to remember the link to their childhood.

The speakers in Wordsworth's poems are lone travellers and wanderers who are struck by the grandeur and majesty of the natural world. The wanderer is also able to transcend his current situation by learning more about himself through his travels.

By thinking back on their early years, adults can rekindle the creative energy and close bond they once shared with nature. As a counterbalance to melancholy, isolation, and despair, these recollections in turn inspire adults to re-cultivate as close a relationship with nature as possible. Wordsworth concentrates on vision and sight as the means by which people undergo transformation in all of his poems.

Wordsworth has humanized nature. He believed that the natural world had a will of its own. Everything in the natural world has a divine spirit that enables it to heal. He believed that happiness comes from being in nature. Because nature has a divine healing power, it comforts bereaved hearts. He saw nature as a spiritual mentor, the best mother in the world, a healer, and a protector. He felt there is spiritual communication between people and the natural world. He believed that man and nature are involved in a "mystic intercourse," or mutual consciousness. He discusses the enigma of the soul's communion with nature with his audience. He believed that there was a lot that nature could teach humans about morality, good, and evil. For him, nature is the best mentor and teacher. Wordsworth writes “Come forth into the light of things, let nature be your teacher.”

Wordsworth believed that nature had the most positive mental effects on people throughout his writing. Every natural phenomenon, from the tallest mountain to the most basic flower, inspires admirable, elevated ideas and intense feelings in those who witness it. Wordsworth stresses nature's significance for a person's intellectual and spiritual growth on numerous occasions. People who have a positive relationship with nature are better able to connect to the social and spiritual realms. A love of nature can inspire a love of humanity, as Wordsworth demonstrates in *The Prelude*. Poems like “London” and “The World Is Too Much with Us” depict how living in cities causes people to become immoral and self-centred. Wordsworth writes in above poem

“The world is too much with us; late and soon,

Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers;—

Little we see in Nature that is ours;”

Wordsworth was raised near the natural environment. He has therefore cherished nature since he was a young child. When he was a child, he fell in love with nature because he adored everything about it, including the enormous, breathtaking mountains, dancing flowers, verdant trees, and meandering rivers. In Tintern Abbey, Wordsworth traces the development of his appreciation for the natural world. When he was younger, the outdoors was his play area. Its sensual beauty drew him in later in life. In the end, his love of the natural world developed a spiritual and intellectual aspect that served as a source of instruction and direction in his later years. In ‘The Prelude,’ he records dozens of these ordinary events—not for the sake of the events themselves, but for his own mental education. In ‘The Immortality Ode,’ he tells how, as a young child, his love of nature was a thoughtless passion, but that, as he grew older, his observations of humanity's suffering caused the objects of nature to take on a sober colour and inspire deep thoughts in his mind.

Wordsworth highlights how a person can be lifted above their physical limitations and out of the confusion of the tangible world by recalling lovely images. According to him “Nature is a teacher whose wisdom we can learn, and without human is vain and incomplete. William Wordsworth observed that a man could cure himself of all ailments if he treated nature like a friend. One source of therapeutic healing is nature. He views the natural world as his friend, mentor, and guardian. In Tintern abbey he writes:-

Through a long absence, have not been to me

As is a landscape to a blind man's eye:

But oft, in lonely rooms, and'mid the din

Of towns and cities, that owned to them.

In hours of weariness, sensation sweat,(22-27)es

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Cazamian, a noted critic, says that “To Wordsworth, Nature appears as a formative influence superior to any other, the educator of senses and mind alike, the Sower in our hearts of the deep-laden seeds of our feelings and beliefs. It speaks to the child in the fleeting emotions of early years, and stirs the young poet to an ecstasy, the glow of which illuminates all his work and dies of his life.”

Wordsworth, though not specifically mentioning God or religion, approaches nature with a kind of spiritual faith. He writes “And this prayer I make, knowing that Nature never did betray

the heart that loved her; 'tis her privilege, through all the years of this our life, to lead from joy to joy.” Wordsworth lived in a time when the natural world as a whole was threatened for the first time by mechanical power generated by humans and its economic impulses. The forces of nature ceased to be in balance with or greater than those of man. As a result, the natural world gained importance and value. The most obvious manifestation of the divine was found in the domain of natural life and form, while the destructiveness of human aggression, injustice, and ignorance stood in opposition to this peaceful and beautiful world. Human existence was engulfed by the growing metropolis's life and confined to its own noisy, bustling world. Although Wordsworth sought solace in his natural settings in the English Lake District, poetry and fiction soon started to assume the role of interpreting human experience in the city. Wordsworth's friend and neighbour

In addition to his beautiful, timeless poetry, Wordsworth is most known for having started the Romantic Era, which paved the way for later authors like Emerson and Thoreau in America and John Keats, Percy Bysshe Shelley, and Lord Byron in England. William Wordsworth was criticized by Shelley for abandoning his early ideals of social revolution and turning to nature and his own ego in addition to adopting a conservative political outlook. Shelley loved Wordsworth, but he was unable to embrace the elder poet's moralistic view of nature, and his poetry from *Alastor* onwards criticizes Wordsworth's ideas. Wordsworth was criticized in the *Alastor* volume for forsaking liberty and truth, but in later years, the criticisms grew more caustic.

Wordsworth believed that nature was a healing force that could uplift tired spirits and calm troubled minds. Wordsworth's believed that nature is a divine creation that is both distinct from and deeply entwined with the human world.

To sum up, Wordsworth's poetry provides a deep examination of nature that goes beyond simple description to include a wide range of ideas and viewpoints. Wordsworth's poetry has everlasting relevance and universal appeal, captivating readers with his exploration of the human psyche and its relationship to nature, as well as his celebration of the sublime. Wordsworth challenges us to reevaluate our place in the world and to develop a deeper appreciation for the beauty and wonder of the natural world by urging us to ponder the mysteries of existence and to connect with something greater than ourselves. After careful examination, a number of significant conclusions are revealed that shed light on Wordsworth's abiding respect for nature and how it has shaped human experience. To put it succinctly, Wordsworth found absolute joy in nature. For him, nature was a living entity, much like a mentor, teacher, or nurse.

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