

МЕДИЦИНА, ПЕДАГОГИКА И ТЕХНОЛОГИЯ: ТЕОРИЯ И ПРАКТИКА

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THE MOTIFS OF ROMANTICISM IN EMILY DICKINSON'S POETRY

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Abstract. Emily Dickinson, a prolific American poet of the 19th century, is known for her unique style and profound exploration of themes such as love, nature, and death. While she is often categorized as a pre-modernist poet, her work also exhibits strong elements of Romanticism, a literary movement that emphasized emotion, imagination, and the beauty of nature. This article delves into how Dickinson expressed Romantic motifs in her poetry. “A Bird came down the Walk” and “Hope is the thing with feathers” are analyzed in order to represent the main features of romanticism in her work.

Key words: *romanticism, nature, imagination, emotion, inspiration, spirituality.*

МОТИВЫ РОМАНТИЗМА В ПОЭЗИИ ЭМИЛИ ДИКИНСОН

Абстрактный. Эмили Дикинсон, плодовитая американская поэтесса XIX века, известна своим уникальным стилем и глубоким исследованием таких тем, как любовь, природа и смерть. Хотя ее часто называют поэтом-домодернистом, в ее работах также присутствуют сильные элементы романтизма, литературного движения, которое подчеркивало эмоции, воображение и красоту природы. В этой статье рассказывается о том, как Дикинсон выражала романтические мотивы в своих стихах. «Птица спустилась по аллее» и «Надежда — это существо с перьями» анализируются с целью отобразить основные черты романтизма в ее творчестве.

Ключевые слова: романтизм, природа, воображение, эмоция, вдохновение, духовность.

One of the key characteristics of Romanticism is a deep appreciation for nature and its connection to human emotions. Dickinson frequently used nature imagery in her poems to convey complex emotions and ideas. For example, in poems like “A Bird came down the Walk” and “Hope is the thing with feathers” she

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portrays nature as a source of beauty, inspiration, and spiritual sustenance. Through vivid descriptions of flowers, birds, and landscapes, Dickinson captures the sublime power of nature and its ability to evoke deep feelings of awe and wonder.

Another prominent theme in Romantic literature is the celebration of individuality and the exploration of the inner self. Dickinson's poetry often reflects a profound introspection and a keen awareness of her own thoughts and emotions. In poems like "I'm Nobody! Who are you?" and "I dwell in Possibility" she explores themes of identity, solitude, and the power of the imagination. Dickinson's introspective voice and her focus on the inner workings of the mind resonate strongly with the Romantic emphasis on individual experience and self-expression.

Love and passion are also central themes in Romantic poetry, and Dickinson's work is no exception. While she is often perceived as a reclusive figure who led a solitary life, Dickinson's poetry reveals a deep sensitivity to the complexities of human relationships and emotions. In poems like "Wild Nights - Wild Nights!" and "I cannot live with You," she explores themes of love, desire, and longing with a raw intensity that is characteristic of Romantic literature. Dickinson's unconventional views on love and her exploration of its joys and sorrows add a layer of emotional depth to her poetry that resonates with readers to this day.

In Emily Dickinson's poem "A Bird came down the Walk," she showcases her romantic sensibility through her exploration of the natural world and the interaction between humans and animals. This poem exemplifies Dickinson's ability to infuse everyday experiences with profound meaning and emotional depth, a hallmark of romantic poetry.

*A Bird, came down the Walk -
He did not know I saw -
He bit an Angle Worm in halves
And ate the fellow, raw,
And then, he drank a Dew
From a convenient Grass -
And then hopped sidewise to the Wall
To let a Beetle pass -*

The poem begins with the simple yet evocative image of a bird coming down a walk, setting the stage for a close observation of nature and its inhabitants. Dickinson's keen eye for detail is evident in her vivid descriptions of the bird's

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behavior, such as “hopped sideways to the wall” and “let a beetle pass.” These details not only create a sense of immediacy and intimacy but also highlight Dickinson’s fascination with the intricacies of the natural world.

As the poem progresses, Dickinson shifts the focus to the interaction between the bird and the speaker, who offers the bird a crumb. The act of feeding the bird symbolizes a moment of connection and empathy between human and animal, underscoring Dickinson’s romantic belief in the interconnectedness of all living beings. This gesture of kindness reflects Dickinson’s reverence for nature and her recognition of the beauty and significance of even the smallest creatures.

Furthermore, Dickinson’s use of imagery in describing the bird’s behavior, such as “stirred his velvet head,” “drank the dew,” and “let a bead upon each eyelid,” imbues the poem with a sense of wonder and enchantment. Through these sensory details, Dickinson captures the beauty and mystery of the natural world, inviting readers to appreciate its splendor and complexity.

The poem concludes with a poignant reflection on the bird's sudden departure, as it “unrolled his feathers” and flew away. This moment of fleeting beauty and freedom encapsulates Dickinson’s romantic sensibility, as she celebrates the transient yet profound moments of connection and joy that can be found in nature.

Overall, Emily Dickinson’s poem “A Bird came down the Walk” exemplifies her romantic sensibility through its intimate portrayal of a bird’s encounter with the speaker. Through vivid imagery, attention to detail, and a sense of wonder, Dickinson captures the beauty and complexity of the natural world while highlighting themes of connection, empathy, and fleeting moments of transcendence. This poem showcases Dickinson’s unique ability to find meaning and beauty in the ordinary, underscoring her lasting impact as a romantic poet.

In Emily Dickinson’s poem “Hope is the thing with feathers,” she explores the theme of hope through a metaphorical representation of a bird. This poem exemplifies Dickinson’s romantic sensibility by using nature as a symbol to convey deeper emotional and philosophical truths.

*“Hope” is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -
And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -*

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*And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -*

The opening line, “Hope is the thing with feathers,” immediately sets the tone for the poem, establishing hope as a fragile yet resilient entity that can uplift and sustain individuals in times of adversity. The comparison of hope to a bird with feathers suggests a sense of lightness and freedom, emphasizing the ethereal and transcendent nature of hope.

Throughout the poem, Dickinson personifies hope, attributing human qualities to this abstract concept. By describing hope as “perches in the soul,” Dickinson creates a vivid image of hope taking root within the innermost depths of the individual, providing comfort and solace in times of despair. This personification adds a layer of emotional depth to the poem, highlighting the intimate connection between hope and the human experience.

Dickinson’s use of imagery further enhances the poem’s romantic elements, as she paints a vivid picture of hope as a bird that never stops singing, even in the face of adversity. The imagery of the bird's song conveys a sense of resilience and optimism, suggesting that hope has the power to endure and uplift even in the darkest of times.

Moreover, Dickinson’s exploration of hope as an intangible yet tangible presence underscores her romantic belief in the power of emotions and the human spirit. By portraying hope as a force that can sustain individuals through hardship and uncertainty, Dickinson celebrates the enduring capacity of the human heart to find solace and strength in moments of despair.

Emily Dickinson's poem “Hope is the thing with feathers” exemplifies her romantic sensibility through its exploration of hope as a transcendent and enduring force in the human experience. Through vivid imagery, personification, and metaphorical language, Dickinson captures the essence of hope as a source of light and resilience in times of darkness. This poem showcases Dickinson's unique ability to infuse everyday experiences with profound emotional depth, highlighting her lasting impact as a romantic poet.

In conclusion, Emily Dickinson’s poetry embodies many elements of the Romantic tradition, from her deep connection to nature and her celebration of individual experience to her exploration of love, passion, and the mysteries of the

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human heart. Through her evocative imagery, introspective voice, and emotional depth, Dickinson captured the essence of Romanticism in a way that continues to inspire readers and scholars alike. Her work serves as a testament to the enduring power of poetry to illuminate the human experience and speak to the universal themes that bind us together across time and space.

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