

## William Wordsworth and the Present World

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### Abstract

*William Wordsworth, one of the most prominent English Romantic poets, deals with the issues of nature, mental health, and existential questioning that have relevance to the modern world as well. His poetry full of natural images and descriptions focuses on the hidden powers and features of natural space. It correlates with the modern tendencies of the ecological movements and activities to protect the environment and stop climate changes. Moreover, Wordsworth's ideas that nature is one of the most powerful tools to restore a persons' mental health through a discussion or contemplation that is especially important for the ongoing process of the urbanization and digitalisation of the modern world and all the challenge it brings to the citizens. What is more, such introspection as an analysis of a place of memory, its features and benefits, and the desire to reveal one's imagination leads to certain conclusions and experiences of questioning that Wordsworth offers in his "Lines Written a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey" and "Ode: Intimations of Immortality". In this way, his themes of nature, memory, imagination, and existential questioning provide the most proper connections to the modern world to help the people to eradicate the environmental issues or restore their mental health to overcome all the contemporary problems. That is why Wordsworth's poetry exists now as the best appeal to realise how people should bear the meaning of the life due to the presence of the unique bond that exists between nature and a human being.*

**Keywords:** William Wordsworth, Romantic poets, Tintern Abbey, mental health, Nature.

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### Introduction

William Wordsworth was one of the major Romantics of English literature. His deep connection to nature, innovative poetic forms, and reflection upon human existence left a profound influence on literature. Surprisingly, Wordsworth's philosophy and themes of the 18-19th centuries are still applicable to the nowadays world. His viewpoint can be connected to the modern issues in the area of the environment, mental health, and the search for meaning in the chaotic world. The purpose of this paper is to describe how Wordsworth's themes and philosophy can be applied to the present-day global issues and personal search.

### The Relevance of Nature in the Present World

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Received 14 June 2024; Accepted 19 July 2024. Available online: 30 July 2024.

Published by SAFE. (Society for Academic Facilitation and Extension)

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One of the major themes in Wordsworth's poetry was nature, which is quite relevant to the present day when humanity is facing environmental disasters such as Global Warming and Climate Change. In the poem, *Lines Written a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey*, the authors beautifully discuss the natural world and the beauty that emanates from every creature. We can infer that Wordsworth is suggesting that nature has its effect on balancing and calming the human soul. The poem "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud" also talks about the beauty of nature and appreciates it as it naturally exists. At one point, the poem states: "When all at once I saw a crowd, A host, of golden daffodils; Beside the lake, beneath the trees, Fluttering and dancing in the breeze". Wordsworth's appreciation is quite relevant to the novel "The World Without Us" by Alan Wiseman. The narrator explains how the human world, which led to almost all the modern environmental crises. It, therefore, remains that nature is indeed beautiful, as it naturally occurs.

"Nature never did betray  
The heart that loved her." (Wordsworth, "Lines Written a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey," 122-123).

These lines are closely related to the idea that nature is immutable and can cure anything. No doubt, when the dangers of climate change, deforestation, and pollution are more evident, the poems by Wordsworth may become some sad reminiscence of what could be lost. However, the author's expression of the fact that it is nature which any person needs can be helpful in making the world more improved as far as attitude to the environment is concerned. Thus, poetry is still relevant in modern society, which should rethink its current objectives and support them no matter what.

### **Mental Health and the Healing Power of Nature**

In the poetry of Wordsworth, one may often see how much attention is paid to the connection between nature and the human mind. The reflection may suggest that a natural landscape could be good for one's mental health, and in "Tintern Abbey," a poet comments that the memory of the Wye Valley had "in my most grieved mood" afforded "tranquil restoration". The idea of being able to get a more serene state of mind from a memory or imagination of a beautiful place seems very relevant to the present world with its various mental health problems and the known effectiveness of nature in their treatment.

"But oft, in lonely rooms, and 'mid the din  
Of towns and cities, I have owed to them,  
In hours of weariness, sensations sweet,

Felt in the blood, and felt along the heart" ("Lines Written a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey," 26-29).

Wordsworth's revelations on the subject serve as a remembrance of how critical it is that we combine nature with our urbanized and digital-centric society. Contemporary efforts like ecotherapy and nature-based mindfulness techniques also reflect Wordsworth's suggestion that the great outdoors may improve one physically. The poetry he creates fosters a renewed passion for the natural world, proving to be an age-old antidote to the stresses and pressures of modern-day life.

### **The Quest for Meaning in a Chaotic World**

Wordsworth's discovery of human experience extends far beyond his quest in nature to memory, imagination, and seeking significance. In *Ode: Intimations of Immortality* Wordsworth was exploring the loss of innocence and his ever-pressing age in relation to spirit within life. An existential crisis, almost a spiritual quest at this juncture time in our quick fix ever-changing world of newfangled whizzbang technology and sea-changing societal norms that left us befuddled as to what on earth is going on.

"Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting:  
The Soul that rises with us, our life's Star,  
Hath had elsewhere its setting,  
And cometh from afar." (Wordsworth, "Ode: Intimations of Immortality," 58-61).

At a time when we were disoriented by the peripheral world and chased materialistic goals like donkeys running after carrots hanging in front of their eyes to lead them forward — Wordsworth chose introspection as an antidote. His focus on self-examination, psychological awareness and inner fulfilment brings about a more conscious way of living. Reading Wordsworth enables readers in the present age to meet with their existential crisis and rediscover a more substantive way of seeking its meaning.

### **Conclusion**

The poetry of William Wordsworth will live as relevant — some believe more so now, if that is possible in a world becoming ever more asphalted and concrete. Wake-up call to solutions for current day environmental woes, also a great morale boost providing peace of mind at present chaotic era. The presentational context is quite challenging, but as we are all wrestling with the conditions wrought by Covid-19 to deliver Wordsworth's always valuable wisdom encourages us into a more harmonious and reflective life. We continue to construct layers of meaning and purpose on his words, plans that render us an act in nature beyond the grip of time. It feels reminiscent as though we have forgotten our own humanity.

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