

## ART OF GOTHICISM AND SUPERNATURALISM GLORIFIED IN THE WORKS OF WORDSWORTH AND COLERIDGE

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### ABSTRACT

*“The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of the things, but they inward significance.”*

*Art is an expression of human creative skill and imagination in the form of sculptor, painting, novel or any other form of creative work that can be appreciated by its beauty. By the 18th century in England the term gothic had become identical with the medieval era, distinguished as bar break and unenlightened. It fluctuated into a genre of gothic literature which had and obsessions with supernatural elements. This article attempts to overview the development of gothic fiction in the poems of Wordsworth and Coleridge to identify gothic elements and they impact on the characters. The attempt to defect the gothic component present in nature celebrates in its various dimensions in the works of William Wordsworth and St Coleridge. It is a distinct style of writing with the constituent of supernatural beings, haunted castles, horror, fear, death etc, as well as the romantic factor, such as nature, individuality and passion which includes suspense and fear in the atmosphere.*

**Keywords:** Gothic, Genre, Supernatural, Creative Skill, Haunted, Nature.

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### Introduction

The gothic genre became Vogue in the late 18th and early 19 century. It accommodated a blend of tragedy and romance died with the hue of horror and supernaturalism. The gothic tales and the poems were not about the mandatory life of the romantic era. Its sensual hallucinatory elements gave the readers an illegitimate thrill. The gothic literature is closely associated with the revival of gothic architecture during the romantic era. By the end of the 18th century, the term gothic had become popular with the medieval era enriched by the superstitions, barbaric and unenlightened. It transmitted into a genre of gothic literature with which had a fascination with supernatural and death, swaying various art forms that seek to shock and entertain the readers. The paper focuses on how Wordsworth and Coleridge treat the element of supernaturalism and Gothicism in their works. Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge were the high priest of the romantic era both use the components of the irrational and supernaturalism in their poetry. Wordsworth seeks to give the objects of nature the colour of imagination whereas Coleridge made the supernatural look real.

Wordsworth mixes natural and ordinary matters with imagination and turns them into supernatural elements. Although Wordsworth poetry does not consist of the unreal element as ghost, knights, God, monsters etc. Wordsworth is not fond of using the fanciful or terrifying a creepy element to raise the human emotions, but still he depicts the supernatural factors in the feeling and emotions. He represents common incidents in an uncommon way. Thus, the aim of this paper is to analyse Wordsworth's natural as supernatural touching upon the common theme of 'Nature and Death'.

### Objectives

- The paper aims to increase the critical thinking In regard to symbolism and fat metaphors used in gothic literature.
- To recognize the vocabulary of Gothic Literature.

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- To make the readers familiar with the darker and tragic theme of the romantic period.
- To stimulate the emotional response of the audience by creating a circumstance and setting which the reader is sufficiently distant from to experience a feeling of safety and yet remain close enough to feel endangered by it.
- To identify the relationship between the Gothic and the surreal.

### **Wordsworth Use of Mystical and Gothicism Elements**

Wordsworth is unanimously acknowledged as a mystic. His mysticism is deeply rooted in his conception of nature. He believed that nature is endowed with life, feelings, thoughts purpose and reason. He regarded Nature as all-pervading being. The element of Mysticism and Gothicism is well defined Wordsworth's poetry

*"Being spread*

*Over all that moves and all that see meth*

*Still; overall that, lost beyond the reach of thought, and human knowledge to the human eye,*

*Invisible, yet live it to the heart."*

Wordsworth expresses his mystic philosophy in nature. Wordsworth recognize in nature a being. He felt the presence of some unseen power *i.e God*.

*"Whose dwelling is the light of setting Suns,*

*And around ocean and the living air,*

*And the blue Sky and in the mind of man."*

Words worth gothic elements speak of the "shadowy recollections "which has the power to sustain in the 'World of Darkness' which gives us glimpses of another reality. Hi recognize an all pervading being, in eminent in all things, in both man and nature. He expresses his faith in the lines of Tin tern Abbey;

He feels nature is endowed with life .He saw the unifying principle in all things,running through men and nature, through visible and invisible.

*"And I've felt*

*A presence that disturbs me with the joy next line of elevated thoughts; a sense sublime next line of something far more deeply into fused"*

Wordsworth comprehended things in an unusual way. The use of supernatural element by detecting nature as a living entity is remarkable. Nature however is not always gentle in her ministrations; her sterner interventions are there to discipline the wayward character. The feeling of the air blowing around his head, the exhilaration is mixed with the gothic awe.

*"Hung....*

*Above the Ravens nest by knots of grass and half inch fissures in the Slippery Rock....."*

The stolen boat episode conveys a clear impression of nature's discipline through the gothic element fear. It conveys in idea of how natural objects become significant in the development of emotional life. The inscrutable workmanship that reconciles discordant elements within the soul, demonstrate the process of beauty and fear at the same time. Wordsworth also stresses upon how modern life is divorced from nature. He is of the opinion that nature has the healing capacity to cure the ailments of living being.

### **Coleridge as the Poet of Gothic and Supernatural**

When Wordsworth and Coleridge wrote 'lyrical Ballad' Coleridge took the supernatural as his field and naturalised it. He aimed at making the supernatural appeal natural. Coleridge's supernaturalism is suggestive, psychological and refined, not crude and sensational. His supreme strength lay in his marvellous dream faculty. His great poems, the rime of ancient Mariner, Cristobel, Kubla Khan testify his power to depict the Mystic and Gothic world in a natural manner. His works found to lay the delineation of the supernatural with the natural ease. Some of his books are a blend of romantic and gothic principles for stop gothic literature is an imitation of medievalism inspired by the medieval art, architecture and style.

In *Cristobel*, the protagonist returns to a medieval Castle which appears as seductive due to *Jeans* presence. The unnerving moment when the ship standing in the ocean and is unable to move in the rime of ancient *Mariner* this embodies the voice to punish the *Marina* for his son is also an example of Gothicism. The language used in *Ancient Mariner* is archaic. John Bowensays Gothicism is a world of doubt about the supernatural and the spiritual; It takes a mind beyond human power, reason and knowledge.

Despite the fascination of truth in superstition, Gothicism is more about fear of the supernatural itself. This has been best illuminated in his poem the rime of *Ancient Mariner*. The catastrophe commences when the *Mariner* shoots the *Albatross*, a symbol of good luck. The supernatural character brings ill omen and curse upon the *Mariner*. The story brings out the feeling of all and isolation which is also a remarkable example off got season. This scary visual of the isolated ship standing still in the vast ocean is noteworthy example of gothic element, the presence of *Geraldine* in the medieval Castle with the protagonist appears as 'Damsel in Distress' is terrifying the objects or paraphernalia creates the gothic environment of Poem much scarier.

### Conclusion

Nature has a duality has something beautiful and scary at the same time. Together with Wordsworth, Coleridge believed in spontaneity and superiority of nature. Both the poets managed to depict another facet of nature. Nature is associated with mystery and supernatural elements. Various elements of romance, mystery and artistic beauty give a shape to wide variety of works. The 18th century print culture encrypted the emergence of modernity with the existence of gothic culture among the romantics. Words worth poem highlighted this convention and to perpetuate and metamorphose as gothic speck which gained resonance overtime. The era of 18th century has its own season of romantic gothic which grows deeper slow, silent and unperceived with the time. It is medieval model unified with variegated and complexity yet unified.

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