

Imagery in Dover Beach poem by Mathew Arnold

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ABSTRACT

Poetry/poem as considered one of literary works is without a doubt an exciting situation to be analyzed. In this poem there are numerous elements which might be precious as an evaluation supply. One of them is imagery. Imagery is utilized in a poem to help the readers to know how and comprehending the whole poem because through the imagery the readers can believe each phrase, they are studying inside the poem, to be able to see, feel, touch, listen and smell. These elements found in the Arnolds poem Dover Beach, describes the intensity genuine feelings of the author. The main purpose of this kind of imagery contained in Dover Beach poem. In this poem there are numerous imagery's, these are visual imagery, olfactory imagery, auditory imagery, tactile imagers, organic imagery etc. In this poem there are various psychoanalytic components including unconscious and the identification ego and superego in Dover Beach poem.

Key words: Imagery, tactile imagery, Mathew Arnold's poem.

INTRODUCTION

Mathew Arnold's (1822-1888) Dover Beach was published in 1867. In this poem it requires the analysis of imagery to understand the poets theme and through the images. According to Culler imagery is a literary technique that involves the use of vivid language to create mental images, emotions and visual experience. According to Honan images of sight and sound have a

incredible contribution to the effectiveness of poems because they deliver the poet liberty to express thoughts and mind of honesty, evokes numerous forms of emotions within the reader and for that reason hooks up with the audience. In my opinion I found that the poem Dover Beach reveals the sight and sound are the most important imageries used to give an explanation for the poets thought and emotions due to the threatened existence of Christianity within the 19th century Europe.

Description of imageries in Dover Beach

Virtually each line of the poem ‘Dover Beach’ has few proof of imagery which makes the creation of best fascinating peace but also the challenges of reader. In the opening lines of the poem, Arnold had used the sight of sea scenery, in which the reader is introduced to a ‘calm and relaxing sea’. Here the poet says that in the specific night, the sea was calm, the tide full and the moon was fair. It indicates that the poet’s site is on a bay close to the cliffs of England ignoring the French Coast. This actually is the auditory imagery that evokes that at the opening lines of the poem. The reader is able to see this imagery that there is opportunity that the poet is talking about the scenario in England and France since they share the straight. Though, the use of the word today in developing this imagery of sight shows that thing might change sometime in the future of that the scenario is possibly changing. This image gives a perception of alternate similar changes in condition at the sea landscape. The poet seems to signify that the ‘gleaming light’ when he sees closer to the coast of France is an indication of hope. The reader can also recognize that hope in the area is rapid fading. Arnold seems to suggest that the fading of hope will create hopelessness among the Europeans. In fact this was the conditions in European people at that time.

While the poem continues, he seems to be changing the tone, as shown in the concluding lines of the first stanza. Now, Arnold says ‘...from the long line of spray...there is a grating roar...of pebbles as the waves are drawing back... and brings down disappointment forever. ‘In these lines, the poet has used each sight and sound imagery, which shows his feelings. Clearly, it seems to be that Arnold started by displaying his anger due to the reforming surroundings .In

fact, the reader is capable of that the surroundings is quickly reforming ,the sight and sound of pebbles being tossed and the drawing waves imply that the condition is becoming unpleasant. Besides, the “waves” are used to display the impact of clinical revolution on the society, as the people and institution are rapidly accepted and tend to rely scientific theories more than the church and religion. Thus, “eternal sadness” symbolizes desperation that would fall on the Europe after the death of Christian belief.

In the second stanza, Arnold makes the use of an imagery of sound though recalling what Sophocles, throughout the classical Greek era ,have heard as he anticipated the fall of humanistic themes. Arnold says that during standing at the Beach, he listens the same sound that Sophocles heard in the vicinity of the Aegean Sea. This imagery symbolizes the prediction fall of human faith in God because scientific hypothesis and manufacturing revolution changes the people’s awareness and faith. Arnold says that in the distant north, close to the North Sea, he can hear that the sound, which means soon, that there will be sadness after the death of faith in Europe. He concludes a similar incident to the historic Greece after decline of humanistic themes.

In the 3rd stanza of the poem Arnold presents the factual message that faith is really fading from the people of European people. In this stanza he uses the auditory image of “ melancholy, long and moving back of the society”.The poet uses a metaphor to explain the loss of faith in the society. This auditory image is used to make clear how the poet clearly shows the changes brought by science and manufacturing revolution, even so other people in the society are unable to identify.

In the concluding lines of the poem, the poet does not try to explain imagery but he explains his feelings and appeals to love. Arnold narrates the history of battle that took place on the same beach he is standing throughout the infect of Sicily of Athenians. He informs the reader that the battle, which took place, that took place at night, was a unique one because the night confused the two armies to an extent that the soldiers turned against their colleagues. This is an image urbanized by Arnold to portray the recurrence of a similar battle, where industrial revolution and science have brought perplexity, loss of faith and ultimately, he predicts that unhappiness will prevail in Europe.

Organic Imagery

Organic Imagery (image of an internal sensation) is found in the line 18, "Of human misery; we..." the phrase human misery is Organic Imagery. The word misery distress can lead the reader to believe something that hurts their feelings, together with disappointment, mourn unhappiness, sorrow and so forth. The reader is invited to feel the sense of injuring this is described means of the poet as properly. It is the imagination of the way painful the feelings of disappointment is because of the misery which humans have.

CONCLUSION

In this poem, it is miles clear that almost every and each stanza is full of images. Alongside metaphor, the use of imagery is used to provide an explanation for the ideas and topics that Arnold wants to talk. Imagery has contributed to the improvement of the themes of loss of the religion, the converting nature of Christianity and a likely recurrence of ethical decline, which seems to be much like the same problems that affected the humans in the historical Greece. It seems that Arnold is not happy with the effect industrial revolution on his society, especially because of the human's popularity of scientific view of advent and revolution. In concluding line Dover Beach poem will help the readers to gather more and more information about the poem and to know the relationship with its author. Most of the Arnold's poems talks about death. It is about his wish and fear of condition when he dies. The poet seems anxious to leave his youth, grow old and bear the deathful illness which will cause his death. Even though he is a religious man who has his faith and belief, he still reveals his fear and belief. This is humane for every to fear the death.

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