

Aspects of symbolism in Robert Frost's Poetry

Summary

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Summary

This study attempts a systematic investigation of symbolism in the poetry of Robert Frost. A chapter wise summary of the projects is as follows:

Chapter 1

Introduction

Every art takes us to the personality of the man who has created it and this is more applicable in case of Robert Frost who lived his life up to the bring of it. He occupies the unique position in the area of the American poetic tradition. The poetic career of Frost extends over the decades.

Frost maintained his individuality from the very beginning of his career. Through he was connected with the Georgians and lived and wrote when imagists and symbolists were making revolution in poetry he remained to remain traditionalist as a poet.

In this chapter a brief survey of the poet's life and work has been presented. For, it is difficult to separate the man from the poet and symbolist because he lives as a poet who dedicates his entire existence to the services. For him, the maximum clarification of life comes through the practice of poetry.

Chapter II

Formative Years of Robert Frost

Robert Frost was born in 1874. William Cullen Bryant was writing at that time. Longfellow, Whittier, Lowell and Holmes wrote actively for two more decades. Walt Whitman was alive and writing. Frost began writing poetry after two years of Whitman's death. His first volume of poetry was published in 1913 and his last in 1947 and he died in 1963. His mother Issabelle Moodie left lasting impact on him. He spent some ten years of his life on farm and this might account for the farmer poet. This chapter presents a brief survey of the poet's life and work has been presented. For, Frost lives as a poet who dedicates his entire existence to the service of making his art a clarification of truthful realities

Chapter III

Frost's Theory of poetry and Major Poetic Themes

In this chapter a review of the recurring or dominant themes of Frost poems selected for the present study and poetic devices and his experimentation in verse has also been presented.

Frost experiments on so many levels that to interpret his poems casually on a single level interpretations often results to misunderstand them absolutely. This evasiveness makes Frost one of the most interesting and continually intriguing American Poets.

New England appears and reappear in Frost's poetry. Frost versifies everything that is pertinent to the peculiarities, humour, skepticism, kindness, Puritanism of the people. He never travelled the trodden path to choose his themes. His poems deal with man's relation with the universe. Yet, alienation, isolation and loneliness are predominant themes of his poetry.

Chapter V

Study of Symbolism in the Poetry of Robert Frost

Frost's poetry reveals him as a symbolist in the true sense of the word. He is a person of far keener perception than the people of the mundane world around him. Many of the romantic poets have the enlargement of poetic vision and keen symbolic perceptions. The symbolic heritage of Frost's poetry reveals in the poetic ideas and the use of language. Symbolism implies an indirect suggestions of ideas. The symbolism means veiled mode of communication. A poem may have a surface meaning but it may also have a deeper meaning which is understood by the reader only by interpreting the deeper significance of the word and phrases used. Frost's poems are found to be largely symbolic if they are perused closely and carefully.

This chapter deals with the interpretation of symbols in the selected poems of Robert Frost. Extensive study has been carried out which reveals the poetic virtues of his poetry.

Chapter V

Conclusion

This study of symbolism in the poetry of Robert Frost attempts to show him as a leading poet of his times who worked hard to depict the modern mind and sentiments. It deals with his poetic theories and tools and tries to explain his working methods in view of his popularity and success of his poems.

This Minor Research Projects presents an account of Frost's workmanship as an artist. His main aim both as a poet and a craftsman seem to be to achieve an aesthetically satisfying form without sacrificing modern sensibility. By virtue of fine poems and the contribution to the field he has made his position as a poet par excellence is more than recognized. Emphasis is laid on the working and creation of layers of meaning in his poetry.

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