

# Romantics

Note Title

17/04/2007

## William Wordsworth

### Life

- in his work WW always worked in major themes of growth + memory.

### Poems:

"A Few Lines Composed Above Tintern Abby"

- visit TA again after 5 years
- brought sister w/ him.
- focus on growth + memory

"My Heart Leaps Up"

- rainbow is the central image, but it is not just a rainbow - it's a symbol for WW's love of nature.

"The child is father of the man" - it's w/this

paradox that we get that WW never wants to  
lose his love of nature that he had as a child,  
has as a man, + wants to have forever.

If he loses it, he wants to die. Yes,  
die.

"World is Too Much With Us"

Theme

Samuel Taylor Coleridge  
Life

## "Rime of the Ancient Mariner"

Part I - AM picks out 1 of 3 wedding guests to tell his story to. He begins...

- they sail from England all the way to South Pole
- caught in ice & fog there.
- visited by an Albatross, thought to bring good luck.
- then they were thru the ice.
- for whatever reason, the AM shot the albatross

Part II - the wind blew & they carried on. The men agreed that the AM did the right thing by killing the bird.

- then they got caught at the equator & the men changed their minds about the shooting - it is now a bad thing.
- punished AM by hanging bird's carcass around his neck.

Part III - visited by a ghost ship.

- Death & Death-in-Life gamble for the men's lives.

- all men were killed but the AM lives on

Part IV - he's stuck w/ all the dead men

- he looks at the sea & see all the 'slimy things upon the slimy sea'

- he sees beauty of the sea creatures, blesses them, & the bird falls off

Part V - rain comes

- the dead men rise up & silently work the ropes & helm, rudder

- the Polar Spirit moves the boat along.

Part VI

- we find out that his 'further penance' will continue after this hellish experience.

- the men's angelic spirits leave them w/ angelic sounds.

- he arrives home, back to England.

- ship sinks in the harbour; he floats

- Pilot rescues AM; Pilot's boy goes crazy.

Part VII - AM tells his tale the 1st time to a hermit in order to get 'shrieved'.

Theme explicitly stated lines 612-617.

## "Love God's creatures"

Ode - defn: lengthy dignified on a lofty subject; usually spoken directly to the subject.

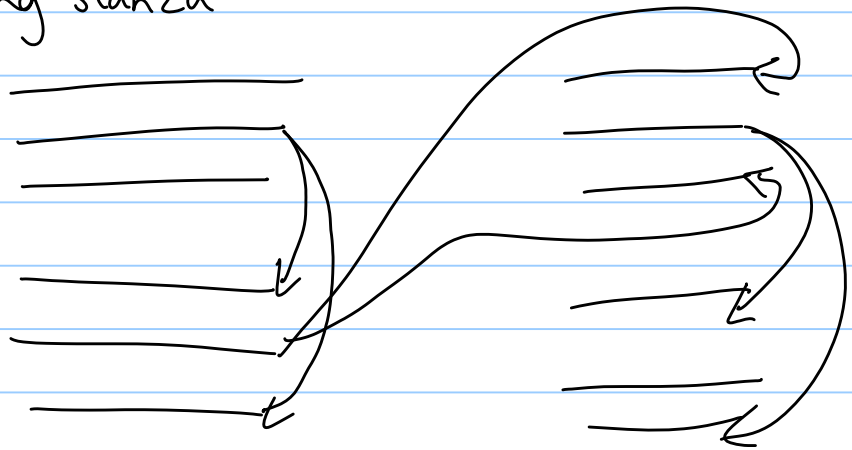
Apostrophe - defn: when something or someone dead or absent is addressed directly as if alive + present.

## Byron "Apostrophe to the Ocean"

- Stanza 1+2 → power of the Ocean over man; man cannot influence the Ocean.
- Stanza 3 → ocean plays w/ us.
- Stanza 4 → ships + man attempt to control oceans - but can't.
- Stanza 5 → makes reference to great empires that came + went; ocean rolls on.
- Stanza 6 → ocean is a "mirror of God"
- Stanza 7 → Byron's own relationship w/ocean; he loves it, but also respects its power.

# Shelley "Ode to the West Wind"

Terza Rima: 3 line stanza in which the middle line of each rhymes w/ the 1st + 3rd of the following stanza



I - wind blows leaves to 'seed' the spring.

II - wind blows the clouds in the sky.

III - wind blows the ocean

IV - poet wishes he could blow w/ the wind, like Cantos 1-3.

- unfortunately: he falls on a thorn & bleeds.

V - metaphorical:

Keats

"Ode to a Nightingale"

- narrator is feeling down / blue + he hears a nightingale singing.

- he wishes to be drunk, so he could 'fly' w/ the birds + forget all about the darkness of life i.e. bro's death (line 26)

- rejects wine, + decides to 'fly' w/ the bird "on the wings of poesy".

- he flies w/ poetry for the next 3 stanzas until "forlorn" brings him back to himself.

- he's again 'blue', but is thankful to the bird for its song which has now gone.

Commentary p. 520.

