

Topic - Critical Analysis of William Blake's poem "The Tyger"

- ⇒ "The Tyger" is a poem taken from William Blake's Song of Experience. The poem is organized in the form of a series of rhetorical questions regarding the tiger's character, the tiger, itself. Here, the poet is equally amazed and intimidated by the presence of the creature which he constantly compares to the domestic lamb.
- ⇒ The tyger is a highly symbolic poem based on Blake's personal philosophy of spiritual and intellectual revolution by individuals.
- ⇒ The speaker of the poem is puzzled at the sight of a tiger in the night, and he asks it a series of questions about its fierce appearance and about the creator who made it. But the context and everything in it must be interpreted according to Blake's philosophy of symbolic myths about human life, society and spiritual revolution.
- ⇒ The Tyger is a symbolic tiger which represents the fierce force in the human soul. It is created in the fire of imagination by the god who has a supreme imagination, spirituality and ideals.
- ⇒ "The Tyger" as a representative of Wonder: —
- As this poem is about the creation of tiger, the writer expresses that everything present in the universe reflects the image of its creator despite their cruel nature.
- ⇒ The emphatically striking image of the tiger makes him think of its creator, and he doubts if this violent thing is created by God or Satan. In fact, he gets puzzled at the sight of a tiger in the dark.
- ⇒ Therefore, he poses a series of questions about his fierce appearance and the creator who has created it. On seeing its perfect symmetry, he questions what tools could God have used to craft its body.

⇒ He also resolves as his questions are unanswerable and beyond human understanding. By comparing the tiger with fire and talks about the existence of evil in the world. However, what enchants the readers is the way he has juxtaposed evil and good in the poem.

⇒ Major theme in "The Tyger" : —

⇒ Creation of "The Tyger" : — Its main theme is the process of the tiger's creation and its end. The tiger has an awe-inspiring but well-proportioned figure. Its ferocity and strength are appalling even the angels were sorrowful with fear at what the tiger could do, and they broke down in tears.

⇒ The poet can hardly believe that the creator of the lamb could dare create such a creature as the tiger. And yet no power other than God himself could design and frame the terrible symmetry of the tiger. But the poem has deeper meaning.

⇒ There are two elements in life - innocence and experience. When innocence is destroyed by experience - when such social evils as injustices, oppressions, and superstitions seek to devour the joyous of life, the tiger (ferocious strength) is needed to restore innocence. The tiger symbolizes the tremendous forces of the human soul which are required to break free from the shackles of worldly experiences like sorrow, disappointment and injustice which every human mind has to pass through.

⇒ The main essence of the poem that man enjoys the glory of innocence and so he is blessed and loved. On the other hand he should be ready to face the fury of God too because both qualities are given by God and in his creations the blending of both contrast qualities is found. Thus his creation can never be challenged - each creation has been imparted its own bliss and fear.