

PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY'S CONCEPTION OF THE POET AND POETIC CREATIVITY

Ladan Farah Bakhsh

Research Scholar, University of Warsaw, Poland

Received: 12 Mar 2021

Accepted: 17 Mar 2021

Published: 31 Mar 2021

ABSTRACT

Percy By she Shelley, as one of the pioneers of English Romanticism, depicts many of the school's principles in his poems; typical motifs and themes that keep recurring in typical Romantic texts include imagination, nature, inspiration, individualism, revolutionism, emotionality, and nostalgia. These elements, which are also common in the works of the founders of British Romanticism, laid the foundation of an unprecedented way of literary aesthetics in the last years of the eighteenth century. Therefore, a thorough study of Shelley's or any other Romantic writer's works can yield a perfect picture of Romantic tenets and values in writing. In the present article the central questions of are: What are Shelley's views regarding the poet, the process of writing, and poetic creativity? Can we consider Shelley as a Romantic critic? To answer the questions, the researcher draws upon Shelley's ideas inserted in his "A Defence of Poetry" and highlights the relevant propositions and assertions proclaimed by the poet. This research shows that Shelley held individualistic and idiosyncratic criteria for appreciating and composing literary texts. Furthermore, like Blake, Wordsworth, and Coleridge, Shelley founded his writings on certain theories and expositions he expounded in a critical essay. In effect, Blake's myth-making, Wordsworth's emotionality and simplicity of language, Coleridge's primary and secondary imagination and fancy, and Shelley's imaginative creation and recreation are indispensable notions in Romantic aesthetics and versification as they constitute the theoretical backbone of British Romanticism. Also, it is argued that like Wordsworth and Coleridge, Shelley can be regarded as a Romantic critic.

KEYWORDS: *Romanticism, Shelley, Imagination, Creativity, Poetry, Myth, and Symbols*