

The Significance of Woman as an Image in Wordsworth's "The Solitary Reaper" and Byron's "She Walks in Beauty"

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Introduction

The present study aims at presenting interpretation of William Wordsworth's "The Solitary Reaper" and Lord Byron's "She Walks in Beauty" with a special emphasis on the significance of "woman" as image. Imagery as one of literary and rhetorical devices is to be followed as an approach to present the interpretation of each one of the poems separately. The comparison between the two poems is made to state the central image "woman" and the minor images that have been provided to foreground the highly importance of "woman" in both poems. While woman as an image in "The Solitary Reaper" affects the aural sense, woman as an image in "She Walks in Beauty" affects the visual sense. The elements of nature are exploited to glorify the warmth of the reaper's voice in "The Solitary Reaper" and the uniqueness of the woman's beauty in "She Walks in Beauty". The paper ends up with some conclusions and a list of references.

1. The Characteristic Features of Romantic Poetry

It is hard to define Romanticism but it is important and required to define it. Cazamian (as cited in Rafiq, 2015: 1) defines Romanticism as "an accentuated predominance of emotional life provoked or directed by the exercise of imaginative vision, and in its turn stimulating or directing such exercise." Romantic period began in 1798, this date witnessed the first edition of Lyrical Ballads by William Wordsworth and S.T. Coleridge and ended in 1832, the year in which Scott and Goethe have died (Melani, 2015).

"Romanticism is the art of presenting people with the literary works which are capable of affording them the greatest possible pleasure, in the present state of their customs and beliefs" (De, 2011) while Fogle thinks that "Romanticism is undoubtedly susceptible of comprehensive, even versal definition" (Coles, 1983:14). Romanticism is considered as the creative impulse. Within this impulse the "vitalist idealism" is presented. In other words, the association between the world with life can be evidently introduced. According to such belief, Romanticism is a mixture between reality and imagination and reality is both material and ideal.

Romantic poetry tends to show the "unusualness of the usual, and conversely the usual in the unusual" (Coles, 1983: 16). Such a belief embodies the Beauty-Truth equation which means the association between the reality and imagination.

Romantic poetry is characterized by:

The role of imagination is centered and lofty in the mind of the romantic poets. According to this argument, the romantic poet tends to present imagination as a power that can be considered as the main source of creativity. Imagination enables human to reconcile differences and opposites in the world of reality. The

reconciliation is a main principle to the Romantics.

The romantic poem is suggested to be a work of art that is composed depending on a divine imagination that is revealed through symbolic language. Narrative is considered as a source of subject and image. Nature is the shelter to which the romantic poet may escape from the artificiality of civilization. "Romantics gave a great attention both to describing natural phenomena accurately and to capturing "sensuous nuance" which is as true of Romantic landscape painting as of Romantic nature poetry" (Coles, 1983: 16). See also (Rafiq, 2015).

Romanticism as a movement in literature is a revolution against the dominating traditions and tyranny. It is the revolution that glorifies the poetic ideals of love, beauty, emotion, imagination, romance and beauty of nature. Romanticism is the revolution against the ideals of intellectualism aristocracy (ibid).

3. Emotionalism is another feature of the Romantic poetry. It is the heartfelt evaluation of beauty whether it human or natural. Beauty leaps up from the heart to attract the heart. So Emotionalism is important in poetic creation since it evokes imagination and activates the feeling of being cheered with beauty of nature (De, 2011).

4. Symbolism and myth are highly appreciated in romantic poetry because the symbolic language which is used in poetry proposes many things. Myth is another source of language since it is considered as the symbolic narration. Myth has intimate association with symbolism (Melani, 2015).

5. Lyricism is one of the features that characterize the Romantic poetry. It is the employment of the first person lyric poetry which is not found in any other period. The poetic speaker became direct person of the poet (ibid). It is the direct revelation of one's own personal feelings and sentiments.

6. Romantic poetry is set in contrast to the neoclassic poetry. Two main differences can be noted: the replacement of reason by imagination and the shift from a mimetic to an expressive orientation for poetry (Melani, 2015). Neoclassical poetry is engaged with intellect and reason while romantic poetry is a mixture of emotions, sentiments, and imaginations (Rafiq, 2015).

7. The choice of the subject matter is regarded as one of the features of romantic poetry. The romantic poets chose to talk about exotic, melancholic, and melodramatic subjects. Moreover, they focus on nature in all its components: rivers, trees, mountains... etc. (De, 2011).

8. The romantic poets indicated apparently their love to the middle ages. The adaptation of medievalism and the revelation of certain aspects of life during the Middle Ages denotes the poets' tendency to get rid of their reality and certain aspects in their life like "intellectualism, urbanism, industrialization and humdrum life" (Rafiq, 2015). The romantic poets employed "the magic of distance, spirit of adventure, knight-errant, duels, battles and tournaments and voyages over chartered seas" (De, 2011).

9. What is closely related to medievalism is Hellenism. Hellenism means that the romantic poets aimed at expressing their nostalgic love and respect to the Greek ancient society and its values and individuals (Rafiq, 2014). Keats refers to Hellenism "as if a Greek born in England" (De, 2011).

10. The last feature is the individualism. Individualism is highly significant in romantic poetry. The romantic poets praised the individual, that's why, they employed their romantic heroes to be unique and eccentric. The romantic poets believed that there are no absolute or perfect systems to be adopted even concerning the philosophical or the religious beliefs. Instead, they preferred to grant the individual the opportunity to follow the system that he prefers (Melani, 2015).

Romantic poetry is the mixture of human miseries and despairs. It is a mixture of human feelings, emotions, and imagination. Although that the romantic poetry has flourished from 1750 to 1870, yet, its spirit is still alive and its subject matters are still fertile in the present literary works.

1.1. Woman as a Theme in the Romantic Poetry

Woman is presented as an image in romantic poetry of the romantic poets (Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelly, and Keats). Woman can be seen through aspirations and desires of the poet (Page, 2002).

Williams (2012: 1) states that the existence of woman was subordinate to man in the society during the 18th and the 19th centuries. The romantic woman at that time can be seen in terms of the following features:

1. Woman can be seen as a pure concept.
2. According to the world of the Christian family, woman is prepared to the domestic affairs (home and kitchen). The matter which has been altered later.
3. Woman can be considered as fallen if she lost virginity before marriage. This tradition became outcast from society.
4. Woman was regarded as a complementary part to man. This can be seen apparently through the writings of women who have used male pens and names.

The romantic poets tend to invest the ideal through sexual union with an ambiguous woman; a woman who is part of the poets imagination and illusion. The purpose behind presenting such a woman is to reflect the poet's intention to prove self-fulfillment.

The romantic poets described nature and the beauty of nature throughout giving description of woman and the beauty of women. In contrast, they dealt with imagination throughout the power of man (Page, 2002). The romantic poets used poetic language that has mythical or spiritual associations to describe the beauty of woman. According to William Wordsworth, the beauty of the woman cannot be described by words because this beauty is extraordinary. Lord Byron aimed at depicting the place in which the woman can be seen in order to be able to describe the beauty of the woman that he intends to describe (Katerdralskole, 2012: 5 – 7).

1.2. The Features of William Wordsworth's Poetry

William Wordsworth has suffered from many social and political problems since 1793. These problems lead him to join William Godwin's circle in London. Wordsworth started to be affected with the Godwinian beliefs especially the role of emotion in human affairs (Coles, 1983: 41).

William Wordsworth has been appealed by nature. It is considered as anti-intellectual point of view and it is regarded as the final departure with Godwinism. Wordsworth has been influenced with the beliefs of philosophers like David Hartley and John

Locke who have emphasized the role of "environment in the shaping of personality". Moreover, he has a good deal about 'the theory of the association of ideas in psychology of learning' (ibid: 42).

The impact of nature upon Wordsworth is so evident. It is stated that "nature, Wordsworth reasoned teaches the only knowledge important to man. The human being who possessed this vital knowledge would be those close to nature – the farmers and shepherds of the countryside" (ibid). Although he has been criticized by some of the critics, but he informed them that "it was they who were absolutely ignorant of the real nature of poetry" (ibid).

William Wordsworth has absorbed the characteristic features of the romantic poetry and denoted these features through his poetry. Accordingly, Wordsworth is deserved to be attributed as a romantic poet. He indicated the real application of the principles of the Romantic Movement in the Lyrical Ballads (Hasan, 2009: 1).

William Wordsworth is a romantic poet because of several reasons. In his poems, Wordsworth focuses on essential aspects of the Romantic Movement. He focuses on the exploitation of imagination in order to make the common things as strange, vivid, and attractive. His style in devoting imagination is highly successful in appealing the reader's attention. Through imagery, Wordsworth presented a stream of pictures in his poems.

Just like the other romantic poets, Wordsworth is purely a worshiper of nature. Nature for Wordsworth is "a heating entity and a teacher or moral guardian" (Hasan, 2009: 1). Cazmian (as cited in Rafiq, 2015: 1) says, "to Wordsworth, nature appears as a formative influence superior to any other, the educator of senses or mind alike, the shower in our hearts of the deep laden seeds of our feelings and beliefs".

Wordsworth's poetry is characterized with subjectivity. He reveals his thought and indicates what he feels through his poems. Poetry to Wordsworth is the medium to bring out his own feelings and to expose his personal thought.

Not so far from nature, Pantheism and Mysticism are the other two factors which have intimate relationship with the poetry of nature. All the elements of nature that Wordsworth has written about are regarded as the spiritual motives that evoke his creative poetic genius (Hassan, 2009: 1).

William Wordsworth as well as the other romantic poets highly appreciated and admired the attitude is the principle that has been emphasized by the French Revolution which is the individual freedom.

1.3. The Features of Lord Byron's Poetry

George Gordon (Lord Byron) is flashy and disreputable of the major Romantics. He was considered as the most fashionable poet of the day. What characterizes this poet is his ability to create what is called the "Romantic Hero". This hero is defiant, melancholic, and haunted by secret guilt. (Poetry Foundation, 2015: 1).

Lord Byron is the worshiper of the ideal. He was in intimacy with reality. He was regarded as a free thinker a man who admired freedom. He embodied this tendency in his works and deeds to the extent that he sacrificed himself to the Greek independence (ibid).

Byron's real poetic success was through the publication of his "Child Harold's Pilgrimage". The society of London has admired Byron because he attempted

seriously to glorify the liberal themes through his speech in the House of Lords (Julic inc, 2015: 1).

Byron has been influenced by pre-romantic poets like Thomas Gray, Thomas Chatterton, Robert Burns, and James Macpherson. The influence of those poets can be felt through the imitativeness and sentimentality in his "Hours of Idleness".

Byron's poetic creativity was so clear while he was in Geneva with Percy Bysshe Shelly, Mary, Wollstonecraft Shelley, and Claire Clairmont who became his mistress. Byron's staying in Italy was significant for the researchers to shed light upon his poetic style and the poetic purposes that he wrote about. Byron wrote "Child Harold" and "The Prisoner of Chillon". Byron has been affected with what he has seen in his visit in Tasso's Cell in Rome, so his "Lament of Tasso" has come as a reaction. Byron has written his "Don Juan" to be his satiric poem. So, it is an evidence that Byron has written a satiric poem as an influence of his masters "Alexander pope' and 'Thomas Gray' (Julic inc., 2015: 1).

Lord Byron has written about the sacred sense of human liberty. His poetry is considered as a revolution against the oppression throughout Europe. Byron was regarded as the voice of human liberty as in his "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage". He mentioned the human liberty as a theme throughout the mentioning of the battlefield in Waterloo and his real sacrifice when he participated in the war of obtaining the independence for Greek against Ottoman occupation, such a theme can be found in "The Prisoner of Chillon". Byron believes that liberty is a right of all human beings.

What characterizes Byron's poetry is his consideration to nature. His point of view towards nature is different from Wordsworth. According to Byron, nature is a part that completes the human emotion and civilization, nature is a companion to humanity. William Wordsworth is regarded as the worshiper of nature, so he idealizes nature. Byron employs the elements of nature in different ways. Sometimes he looks at these elements as dangerous and harsh just like the employment of the nature in his "The Prisoner of Chillon", while he referred to nature as it is connected to freedom or as a refuge from human conflict as it is shown in "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage".

Byron is characterized with fluctuation and instability as a lover. Tension can be felt in his poems. He presented women as lofty personalities, as muses who were the source of inspiration as it is found in his "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage". In his "She Walks in Beauty", Byron aimed at emphasizing the women's merits without being romantically involved with her. Byron issued his satiric tendency towards love in his "Don Joan" the feature that is worthy to be mentioned in dealing with the features of Byron's poetry.

In spite of being a romantic poet, Byron has chosen the themes that have been derived from reality. The themes of his poems were either of his historical indication, biographical documentation or absorbed from the events that accompanied the natural disasters. In brief, there was a room to realism in Byron's poetry.

Byron focuses on the role of culture as a source to create the contemporary art and literature. He believes that literature will be immortal in spite of the vanishing of human civilization. He tries to contrast between the force that aims at destroying human civilization with the role of literature as a force that aims at standing against

oppressive forces and nations.

However, Byron is seen to have a prophetic hunch, he referred to the "day of reckoning", as a theme in his "Darkness". Byron's prophetic intuition towards the future of earth as it is populated by creatures who are no longer human. He believes that such people especially the leaders – who threaten the future of earth and human civilization will no doubt be face to face with justice (Gradesaver, 1999: 1).

2. The interpretation of Wordsworth's The Solitary Reaper

The Solitary Reaper is one of William Wordsworth's poems. It indicates the intimate relationship between nature and the existence of man. There is some sort of interaction between man and nature; they hug each other. Man who is represented by the reaper is being identical with nature to convey the theme of the poem which is the identicality of man with the nature that contains him.

As it is illustrated in (Loring, 2013:1) that "the poem has a clear narrator who instructs the reader to "behold her ,single in the field /you solitary Highland Lass!". This pair of lines refers to the woman's loneliness. Then ,the poet moves on to describe this woman who is "reaping and singing by herself ", which is another evidence to emphasize her loneliness. The poet aims at presenting the woman as a significant image in the poem through the description of her loneliness and the action that she is doing while she is alone in the field, "alone she cuts and binds the grain ". In the first stanza, the poet focuses on the woman's song while she is reaping and he draws the reader's attention to listen to indicate the importance of the woman's song, "O listen ! for the vale profound...". The woman's song was sad but it fills the surrounding with her gloomy voice. James (2013:71) states that the song "is of unusual volume but rather because it is a living thing ;and what alive is". He (ibid) tries to refer to the close relationship between the woman and life around .The woman in the poem is melted with the surrounding nature.

The narrator in the poem emphasizes the association between the two actions that have been done by the woman "the reaper" who is singing on one hand and cutting and binding the grain on the other hand (Coles,1983:93). The poem begins with exclamation to illustrate that "the man who has been arrested by the sight and sound of what arouses his wonder , admiration and awe ,and whose poem ,recreating the experience , arrested by the reader with its opening words" (James,2007:66).

What is worthy to be mentioned is that the action that the woman is doing is quite normal "singing alone". The abnormal action that is done by the woman is "reaping alone". What can be noticed in this stanza is physical absence of the society and the woman's song helps to reproduce the existence of this absent society (Pittock, 2007: 244).

In the second stanza, the poet starts to describe the woman's song. He considered it as a sweet song that is similar to the nightingale's ,her voice is agitating to the extent that the cuckoo-bird can never produce such voice during spring while it is so active (Coles ,1983 :93).

The melody of the woman's song is welcomed by the poet so he intends to generalize this sort of admiration upon the neighborhood like the travelers. Moreover, he tries to describe the impact of the melody of the song upon the whole surrounding like "Arabian sands" and "Breaking the silence of the seas/ Among the farthest Hebrides", so the reaper's song is influential and can be heard clearly all over the field.

Wordsworth enriches the poem with a number of images. These images are illuminating the central image which is presented "the reaper" and clarifying the theme of the in the same time. The poet presents "Arabian sands" to emphasize the eastern romance as it is indicated by Pope in his (The Rape of the Lock) "And all Arabia breaths from yonder Boy" (Conto I ,1.134).The woman's song becomes in interaction with the poet's poetic tendency to have the ability to communicate and to join her in her song and her work(Finch,1975:95-96).

The second stanza is regarded as the logical development of whatever is suggested in the first stanza .The real interaction among different images can be found "The nightingale is the voice of an Oasis, of a life which wells up spontaneously among the Arabian sands and is encountered with joy by weary travelers " (James,2007:71).Moreover, there is a reference to the girl's voice which resembles the voice of cuckoo which is the voice of spring such an image is used to indicate the significance of the girl's song that refreshes the whole place in spite of her alienation just like the role of the voice of the cuckoo in the refreshment of the fields during spring(ibid).

The third stanza of "The Solitary Reaper" suggests several suggestions about the themes that are conveyed through the reaper's song .Coles(1983:93) states that "in some of the most memorable poetic lines in English language ,the theme of her song is considered possibly "...old, unhappy ,far-off things ,/And battles long ago," or "...some more humble lay,/Familiar matter of today ," or "Some natural sorrow, loss, or pain,/That has been ,and may be again".

Hence ,the third stanza exposes another dimension of the girl's song. Wordsworth's imagination approaches the space in the second stanza while references to past "old," "far-off," and "long ago" .It represents the distinctive scale of time .The song expresses a present joy and a past unhappiness. Finch(1975:97) declares that "in the first half ,the girl is dwarfed by the impression of a vast time scale, whilst in the second half ,the lens is adjusted to a close –up view of the girl's own situation .The inherently romantic element of the traditional ballad is balanced by the implication of genuine personal grief. The song is both impersonal and personal".

The third stanza begins with a question about the possibility of finding a person who is able to identify the theme of the girl's song. We can see that the poet in the fourth stanza skips over the question that has been asked in the third stanza .The poet indicates that it is useless and unfair to focus on the theme which is expressed through the song because as it is believed that the listener should enjoy himself with the melody of the song ."Instead ,of seeking, the heart and mind must listen watch and receive." (James,2007:74).

What a highly significant in the last stanza is the poet's consideration of the girl's song " As if her song could have no ending ".These words suggest that the girl's song

is not like a piece of art that can be contained in the museum rather, it introduced itself to him as a live creature that can never be compared and involved within certain boundaries (ibid).

The poet aims at expressing his own response towards the girl's song regardless of its theme .Instead, he concentrates upon the music that he has heard. The unending music that the poet has heard dominates his imagination and is still echoing in his imagination (Coles,1983:94).

To sum up , the theme of Wordsworth's "The Solitary Reaper "can be expressed in form of an equation : the strange is made familiar : the familiar is made strange. In other words, "the appearance of artlessness testifies to the presence of art; and the experience of solitude ,of contact with a non-human world is involved ,paradoxically, with a heightened sense of our common human conditions (Pittock,2007:245).

3. The Interpretation of Lord Byron's "She Walks in Beauty"

In his "She Walks in Beauty" Byron introduced the reader with a woman who has a unique beauty .In the first stanza , the poet emphasize the woman's beauty through the detailed description of the woman. The described woman is associated with night in terms of the gentle way of walking. As it is a principle in the romantic poetry , nature is well indicated in the first stanza through the employment of the elements of nature "night, cloudless starry skies ",the beauty of woman is associated with the mentioned elements of nature . All these beautiful references to nature "meet in her aspect and her eyes". The fusion of colours of the beauty of nature with the woman's beauty resulted a sort of beauty that is more beautiful than the original beauty of nature "Thus mellowed to that tender light /Which heaven to gaudy day denies". The speaker at the end of the stanza declares that the described woman's beauty transcends the beauty of nature (Nickol,2014:1).

The poet aims at describing the physical appearance of the woman .To achieve his attention , the poet creates certain images , for instance ,the contrast between brightness and darkness in the first two lines of the first stanza. The poet mentions the (cloudless night in contrast with shining stars) to shape a wonderful picture of woman with dark hair and white skin. The same contrast can be interpreted as the description of the woman's eyes the deep black part of the eye is contrasted to the white part of it. Another interpretation of this contrast can be the reference to the woman's clothes that contain twinkling parts. The last lines in the stanza focus on the same contrast that is mentioned in the previous lines but it indicates the surprising harmony that resulted from the meeting of darkness and brightness to present a unique beauty of a woman. The woman who seems more beautiful than nature around her .The meeting of the opposites creates a surprising image (Blog, 2011: 1).

The opposites that are found in the beautiful woman can be considered as the reason behind her unique beauty .Darkness and brightness meet in the woman's aspect and eyes .In other words, the poet is not satisfied with praising her physical beauty only, he aims at emphasizing the beauty of her soul. The mentioning of the word "eyes" does not mean a part of the physical beauty, but it refers to the pure heart and soul that the woman has (Kelly, 2001: 269).

In the second stanza the poet contains commenting on the woman's beauty that he has started in the first stanza. The features of this beautiful woman are mixed surprisingly with the elements of nature .The mixture of the woman's beauty with that of nature is balanced and perfect (Nickol, 2014: 1).

It is suggested that the beauty of the woman is perfect, balanced, and in harmony to produce the impossible "grace". Then, he moves on to describe another feature of the woman which is the beauty of her black hair "which waves in every raven tress". The beauty of her hair is presented as a "raven "in terms of its black colour. This black hair goes in harmony with the beauty of the woman's face "lightens O'er her face "(Grimes, 2013: 1).

Since the poet has no way to know whatever is in the woman's heart and he is unable to apprehend the thoughts that are involved in her mind , he imagines that her thoughts are "serenely sweet "and the brain that generate these thoughts is "pure " and "clear" (ibid).

In the third stanza in "She Walks in Beauty ", the poet again sheds light upon the woman's beauty whether this beauty is physical or moral .The third stanza is divided into two parts .The first part contains a description of the woman's physical beauty that smoothes the way to the three lines that involved the moral characterization or the spiritual consideration in the given description of this beautiful woman that the poet is talking about. The given description of certain parts of the woman's head "the cheeks, the brow, and the smile", emphasizes that the poet praises the woman's extraordinary physical beauty. The last three lines of the poem –the second part of the third stanza –focus on the internal beauty that characterizes the woman. The poet tries to describe her mind and the way she thinks (Kelly, 2001: 270).

Grimes (2013: 270) says that "in the final sestet, the speaker continues to fantasize about the woman. The light and shadows play perfectly upon her "cheek, and O'er that brow ...".He (ibid) concludes that this not physically beautiful but also spiritually. Such a meaning is evidently indicated through light and shadows that play the same role in exposing the woman's pure mind and innocent heart.

To sum up, Byron in his "She Walks in Beauty "aims at glorifying the woman's exceptional beauty by using different poetic devices basically contrast and imagery. The matter that helps him to create an excellent picture of the described beautiful woman.

4. Wordsworth's "The Solitary Reaper" and Byron's "She Walks in Beauty ": A Comparison with Reference to Woman as an Image.

Image may be defined as " a mental representation of anything not actually present to the senses " (Dicknson,1959:50).He (ibid) classified the senses into seven senses through the affection of these senses images may be created .They are the visual

sense , the aural sense, the olfactory sense, the gustatory sense , the thermal sense, and the kinesthetic sense. Thorne (2006: 73) states that "imagery refers to a descriptive use of language to represent people, things, places, actions, experiences. Images appeal to our senses –most frequently recreating a visual experience through words ".

In Wordsworth's "The Solitary Reaper" and Byron's "She Walks in Beauty", woman plays the central role as the central image. In each of the two poems the poet tries to describe the woman in a different way by employing different devices. What has been used to convey the main theme is the number of images that can be considered as minor images to clarify the significance of the woman as the main image in both poems.

In Wordsworth's "The Solitary Reaper", the girl is the central image. She has been glorified, praised, and admired by the speaker because of the warmth of the voice while she was reaping and singing. The poet employed the description of her warm voice to create a number of minor images to shed light on the girl as the main image.

The woman as the central image in the poem has been presented as being solitary while the minor images help the speaker to explain the woman's solitariness. In the first stanza, for instance, the poet presents the woman as "reaping and singing by herself", then he goes forward to employ such images that affect the aural sense "and sings a melancholy strain". Moreover, the poet addresses the addressee to "listen" and he expresses that "the Vale profound is overflowing with the sound". Most of the images that are mentioned in the first stanza belong to the kind of images that affect the aural sense.

Wordsworth continues employing images in the second stanza. Most of the images affect the aural sense to create the imaginative world in which the woman lives .The images that have been mentioned in the second stanza focus on the warm voice that the solitary reaper has. The poet declares that the woman's voice is better than the nightingale's chant. In addition to that, the reaper has a "thrilling voice" that the "Cuckoo-bird" does not have at the time of its activity "in spring –time". The reaper's voice is audible and clear to the extent it breaks the "silence of the seas". The reaper's voice is immortal is expanded "among the farthest Hebrides".

The important aim of the speaker in "The Solitary Reaper" is to be engaged completely with the reaper's sweet voice while she is singing. He does not pay much attention to the theme of the song whether it is about the sad events of the past or the misery of the present. The important aspect in the song is the sad tune which indicates sadness and grief in human life whether it has taken place or it may be again.

In the last stanza, the poet indicates clearly that he has been admired and affected with the reaper's voice .The stanza contains the "Maiden sang, as if her song ..., I saw

her singing ..., I listened ..., the music in my heart ..., it was heard ...". The minor images that have been mentioned to describe the central image "the woman" belong to the aural sense as it is shown in table (1) :

Table (1) The Images in Wordsworth's "The Solitary Reaper"

The Central Image	The Minor Images						
	The visual sense	The aural sense	The olfactory sense	The gustatory sense	The tactile sense	The thermal sense	The kinesthetic sense
The woman (The Reaper)	Behold Saw	Sing Listen Sound Chant Notes Thrilling Voice Hear Silence Sing Sang Song Singing Listened Music Heard			stop		Reap Cut Bind Bend Mounted up
Total number	2	15	0	0	1	0	5

According to the employed images as they are listed above in Table (1).The dominant kind of images is the aural sense . The dominance of such a kind of images can be justified through the poet's intention to indicate the woman's loneliness and the impact of her sweet and warm voice upon whoever hears her singing including the poet himself.

In Lord Byron's "She Walks in Beauty", woman plays the central role as the central image. As it is suggested in the title of the poem, the poem is about the beauty of a woman. The speaker in this poem attempts to praise and glorify the unique beauty of the woman. For the sake of describing this beautiful woman he employed a great deal of imagery. Byron enriches the poem with images that glorify the woman's beauty. Most of the images depend on contrasting brightness to darkness to foreground the rare beauty of the woman in relation to the atmosphere around her.

The first stanza in "She Walks in Beauty " contains images like "night" to describe her gentle walking , "cloudless and stary " to refer to her pure and shining face in relation to her black hair and black dress that she wears .He contrasts brightness to darkness to attract the reader's attention to the woman's rare beauty.

Byron employed the contrast between brightness and darkness clearly in the second stanza. The poet indicates that the darkness represented by the woman's dark hair doesn't spoil the woman's beauty but it increases that beauty instead. The images that

are used in the second stanza are centered around the contrast between brightness and darkness like "shade, ray, waves, raven". The waves that can be seen through the woman's black "tress" are similar to the waves that can be seen through the raven's feather ". The image is used to emphasize the darkness of the woman's beautiful hair, in the same time such image is used to emphasize the brightness of her shining face "lightens o'er her face ". The mixture of darkness and brightness expresses the harmony of the woman's black hair with shining face.

In the final stanza, the poet concludes that the beautiful woman that he describes has physical beauty which completes her intellectual beauty. In other words, the appearance completes the substance. To convey such a sense the poet uses an image that connects the other images in the stanza, this image is the woman's "smile", that adds too much to the beauty of the woman's face. The "smile" is "on the cheek and o'er that brow", it is the source of tranquility that indicates the fascinating, surprising, and unique beauty on her face. Moreover, the woman's mind and heart are the sources of peace and innocence.

It seems that the central image in Byron's "She Walks in Beauty" is the "woman", as it is suggested in the title of the poem. For the sake glorifying her unique beauty, the poet enriches the poem with a group of minor images like "night, cloudless, stary skies , dark , bright , etc.". Most of the images that are employed in the poem belong to the kind of the visual sense, as it is indicated in Table (2):

Table (2) The Images in Byron's "She Walks in Beauty"

The Central Image	The Minor Images						
	The visual sense	The aural sense	The olfactory sense	The gustatory sense	The tactile sense	The thermal sense	The kinesthetic sense
The woman	Night Cloudless Stary Dark Bright Mellowed Light Shade Ray Raven Smile Glow			sweet			
Total number	12	0	0	1	0	0	0

According to the employed images as they are shown in table (2), the dominant kind of images is the visual sense. It seems that the other kinds of images are absent in "She Walks in Beauty" .The dominance of the visual sense can be justified through the poet's intention to praise and glorify the woman's unique beauty through providing different pictures. These pictures can affect the visual sense to enable the

reader to imagine her appearance easily and smoothly.

5. Conclusions

The images in general and woman as a central image in particular have a significant role in interpreting the romantic poems , and Wordsworth's " The Solitary Reaper " and Byron's " She Walks in Beauty " are very clear examples . Hence , focusing on the comparison between the two poems on one hand and the emphasis on the images on the other help to interpret the mentioned poems.

In " The Solitary Reaper " , the "reaper" , the woman is the central image in the poem . To create such an image , the poet employed other minor images . The idea of being solitary is conveyed through the emphasis upon her warm voice while she was singing . The images that are employed affect the aural sense as a device that serves the poet to achieve his intention .

In " She Walks in Beauty " , the woman is the central image in the poem. To clarify the significant role of this central image , some other minor images are employed . The woman's unique beauty is intended to be described . The focus upon the contrast between darkness and brightness and the other images play an important role in praising and glorifying the beauty of the described woman in the poem . The images that are employed affect the visual sense as a device that aids the poet to achieve his target .

It is worth mentioning that the two poems contain a hug between woman as a central image and nature . The beauty of woman is skillfully expressed in terms of the beauty of nature in both poems.

In conclusion , the comparison between " The Solitary Reaper " and " She Walks in Beauty " with special concentration on the significance of " woman " as an image and the other images that are employed is a good device to be adopted . This device facilitates the determination of the role of images in understanding and interpreting the two poems.

Appendix 1

The Solitary Reaper

Behold her , single in the field ,
You solitary Highland Lass !
Reaping and singing by her self ;
Stop here , or gently pass !
Alone she cuts and binds the grain ,
And sings a melancholy strain ;
O listen ! for the Vale profound
Is overflowing with the sound .

No Nightingale did ever chaunt
More welcome notes to weary bands
Of travelers in some shady haunt ,
Among Arabian Sands :
A voice so thrilling he'er was heard
In spring-time from the Cuckoo-bird ,
Breaking the silence of the seas

Among the farthest Hebrides.

Will no one tell me what she sings ?-
Perhaps the plaintive numbers flow
For old , unhappy , far –off things ,
And battles long ago :
Or is it some more humble lay ,
Familiar matter of today ?
Some natural sorrow , less , or pain ,
That has been , and may be again ?

What e'er the theme the Maiden sang
As if her song could have no ending ;
I saw her singing at her work ,
And o'er the sickle bending ; -
I listened , motionless and still ;
And , as I mounted up the hill ,
The music in my heart I bore ,
Long after it was heard no more.

William Wordsworth

Appendix 2

She Walks in Beauty

She walks in beauty , like the night
Of cloudless climes and stary skies ;
And of all that's best of dark and bright
Meet in her aspect and her eyes ;
Thus mellowed to that tender light
Which heaven to gaudy day denies.
One shade the more , one ray the less ,
Had half impaired the nameless grace
Which waves in every raven tress ,
Or softly lightens o'er her face ;
Where thoughts serenely sweet express ,
How pure , how dear their dwelling-place .

And on that cheek , and o'er that brow ,
So soft , so calm , yet eloquent ,
The smiles that win , the tints that glow ,
But tell of days in goodness spent ,
A mind at peace with all below ,
A heart whose love is innocent !

Lord Byron

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خُلاصةُ البحث

يهدف البحث إلى تقديم تأويل لقصيدة الشاعر وليم ووردزورث "الحاصدة المنعزلة" و قصيدة الشاعر اللورد بايرن "بحسناها تمشي" مع التأكيد على أهمية "المرأة" كصورة شعرية مع بيان أن التصوير المجازي أحد الوسائل الأدبية والبلاغية التي يمكن اعتمادها كمنهج لتقديم التأويل لكل قصيدة على حده . وقد تم إجراء مقارنة بين القصيدتين لتحديد الصورة الشعرية المجازية الأساسية "المرأة" والصور المجازية الثانوية التي أثرت القصيدتين لإبراز الأهمية الكبيرة للمرأة في كلتا القصيدتين. وتعد المرأة في "الحاصدة المنعزلة" صورة شعرية مؤثرة في حاسة السمع في حين إن المرأة في "بحسناها تمشي" هي صورة شعرية مؤثرة في حاسة البصر. فضلا عن ذلك فقد تمت الإشارة إلى عناصر الطبيعة التي استعملت لتمجيد دفاء صوت الحاصدة في قصيدة "الحاصدة المنعزلة" وجمال المرأة المنقطع النظير في قصيدة "بحسناها تمشي" . ثم يختتم البحث ببعض الاستنتاجات و ملحقين و قائمة بالمصادر التي استعان بها الباحث.