

The background of the cover is a blue-tinted photograph of a desk setup. In the foreground, a black fountain pen lies diagonally across a sheet of graph paper. In the background, a calculator is visible, and a notebook with some faint text is partially seen. The overall aesthetic is clean and academic.

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The Symbol of Fire in Poem

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Abstract: *Writers often employ this literary device as a means of artistic expression. In poetry and other forms of writing, symbolism is often used to convey a specific meaning to the audience. The following article analyses the poetic interpretation of the imagery of water and fire in poetry.*

Key words: *symbolism, water, fire, eternity, rebirth, death, passion.*

Introduction

Symbolism is to convey the hidden meaning to the reader or listener. It tells us about artistic expression and represents abstract ideas. A writer can use a person, place, word, action, and object as a symbol. To convey his mood and emotion, the writer uses symbolism. It can be in a visual image or gesture. It helps in creating meanings and emotions in writing. Usually, symbolism contains several layers of meaning, which are robbed in different aspects and concepts. It gives depth to writing that cannot be expressed straightforwardly. It helps the writer to convey his thoughts on multiple levels.

It has been seen that almost all authors use symbol within their works of literature in order to pull the attention of their readers. Using such symbolic concept it helps the poets in creating a secondary meaning. It also helps in connecting the gaps. Symbols need a careful analysis while in some circumstance it is quite clear. Water can be seen in many forms in literature including waterfalls, lakes, rivers, streams, or rain. The meaning of water symbol in literature can be taken in many ways. The most obvious are life, being born, purity, cleansing, or the washing away of sins. Water is very important to life and growth and it mainly appears as a birth and rebirth symbol. It is used in the baptism service which solemnizes spiritual births. Even the appearance of rain in the work of literature it suggests a spiritual birth.

Most often, water represents cleansing, life and freedom. Water is a contextual symbol in literature, however, meaning that it can symbolize many things depending on how it is used in a novel or a story. Often, the type of water in a story or novel is just as important as the fact that water is used as a symbol. Rivers often represent the flow of life or fertility. Rivers are typically used as symbols by authors because rivers flow; they are constantly moving and they follow a distinct path.

Oceans, on the other hand, because of their scope in relation to the earth, often represent obstacles or abysses from which things emerge or that characters must journey across to reach a destination. Oceans are often symbolically mysterious places that can symbolize overcoming a great obstacle or being dragged down into deep depths by it.

Lakes are often used as symbols in tales in which characters face great decisions or much introspection. Water generally cleanses, however, and it inevitably becomes a symbol of characters in stories handling difficult life scenarios. In any case, water is a symbol of power in stories. It has the ability to free characters as well as claim them.

Materials and Methods

The symbolism of fire can change depending upon the context. In one book, it may represent passion. In another, it may represent destruction. Similarly, you and I may read the same book and interpret fire in completely different ways. But over time and throughout history, fire seems to have repeatedly symbolized a few key things. By understanding these symbolic motifs, we can better understand humans' complex historical relationship with fires. Fire symbolism is widely used in literary spaces, however, besides its cliché adoption as a thing that burns, fire is seen to have a variety of meanings; a widely diverse concept of its usage. What is fire? Well, that depends on you. The meaning of fire is relative, carved from the philosophies of individuals. In the actual sense, fire is a body of flames that provide light and heat. In the literal sense, fire is many things. A body of destruction, a source of illumination, an act of purification, a flicker of hope. Fire is a very vital object in the literary space, which is often used within the context of symbolism. Symbolism is the representation of objects or concepts through symbols. For instance, the dove is a symbol of peace, the color red may symbolize passion, and blood, or romance, fire may symbolize the destruction.

Fire is an incongruous symbol attached to a manifold of meanings. These connotations may arise from experiences or a definite realization of the numerous functions of fire. These symbols have been used in literature, film, and religious texts for centuries. Now, we view fire as many things, outside the primary function of cooking. What does fire symbolize? What are the connotations that we attach to it, the emotions that are linked to it? Fire symbolism is imbued with the sensualities of human beings.

1. Passion and Desire

The flicking of a flame evokes thoughts of passion and desire. Fires leap, dance and spread with reckless abandon. Is there little wonder we see young lovers and remark on their "fiery passion!". The link between fire and passion is also evident in the expression "light my fire!" This expression indicates someone or something inspired passion within someone's soul.

2. Rebirth and Resurrection

It is odd that fire can symbolize both death and life. But it just goes to show how versatile the symbolism of fire is. The role of fire in the symbol of rebirth is best known through the phoenix. The mythical phoenix dies by spontaneous combustion. It bursts into flames and disintegrates into ashes. Then, from the ashes, a new phoenix is born to live its life again. Similarly, when a fire burns through a forest, the old growth in the forest burns away to allow space for the new forest to emerge from beneath.

3. Eternity

Fire represents eternity is through the metaphor of the "eternal flame." So long as the symbolic flame burns, life and hope remain in this world. We might say that an eternal flame burns in our hearts. This will indicate that some belief still lives on within us. Eternal flames are also used in memorial. We remember people's love and sacrifice by burning the flame. So long as the flame burns, we remember and respect the memory of someone who has died. In this case, might say that the eternal flame symbolizes that the memory of someone lives on.

4. Destruction

Fire has the ability to decimate things it comes in touch with. This has helped authors throughout the years use fire as a symbol of destructiveness.

5. Hope

Fire is something we look to – sometimes on the horizon – as a symbol that salvation is near. There are a few reasons for this: Fire has long been an excellent form of long-distance communication due to its

brightness; Fire is warmth, and its sight may signify refuge from the cold outside; A fire on the horizon can symbolize an Inn or safe haven in which a traveller may rest.

6. Hell

Our modern view of hell almost always involves fire. We might curse about an evil person by saying, "may you burn in the fiery pits of hell!" This view of hell is closely associated with Dante's vision of hell in *The Inferno*. Fire awaits us in hell, and there we will be tortured as it burns us insufferably. Even before Christian beliefs, hell seemed to be associated with fire. Plato wrote of a lake of fire in which evil spirits burn in *Gorgias*, written in 380BC. Similarly, the Egyptian Book of the Dead in 1250BC spoke of a lake of fire awaiting sinners.

7. Purification

I just spoke of how fire symbolizes hell in the Bible. It seems that the Bible has another use of fire, too. Fire is often used to symbolize purification. Fire rids people (or the world) of sin. This is perhaps because fire leaves no trace of the thing it burns besides its ashes. Thus, to purify a witch, we burn her at the stake.

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