

**CHAPTER - IV**

**NATURE IN THE SELECTED POEMS OF**  
**BALKAVI AND SHELLEY**

## CHAPTER-IV

### 1) INTRODUCTION:-

Nature has always been a source of inspiration for both Marathi and English romantic poets. Like all romantic poets, both Balkavi and Shelley, the renowned Nature poets in Marathi and English poetry respectively, had deep and passionate love of Nature. It is out of this love that they have depicted very enchanting and beautiful pictures of Nature in their poetry. In addition to this, Nature is treated by them as a companion, a friend, a healer of sufferings and a medium for expressing feelings and emotions, thoughts and ideas in their poetry. In short, Nature plays an important role in their poetry. However, in order to understand the treatment of Nature in their poetry, it is essential to know the description of Nature. In this chapter, I propose to analyse the ten selected poems of each of these poets, so that we can understand the idea or the role and significance of Nature in the poetical works of both Balkavi and Shelley. Let's analyse and interpret the poems selected for the purpose of the present research work.

### 2) THE SELECTED POEMS OF BALKAVI:

In order to point the treatment of Nature in the poetical works of Balkavi, I have selected ten Well known Nature poems from the book बालकवीची समग्र कविता<sup>1</sup> and with the help of analysis and interpretation tried to point out the description and significance of the various objects of Nature in them. The

poems selected for the purpose of the study are:

- 1) 'Phulrani' (फुलराणी)
- 2) 'Shrayanmas' (श्रावणमास)
- 3) 'Sandhyarajani' (संध्यारजनी)
- 4) 'Meghancha Kapus' (मेघांचा कापूस)
- 5) 'Audumbar' (औदुंबर)
- 6) 'Anandi-Anand' (आनंदी-आनंद)
- 7) 'Paaus' (पाऊस)
- 8) 'Parava' (पारवा)
- 9) 'Bharadwajās' (भारद्वाजास)
- 10) 'Khedyatil Ratra' (खेड्यातील रात्र)

In these poems Balkavi treats various objects of Nature such as the wind, the birds, the flowers, the clouds, the moon, the sun, the stars, the night etc, and expresses his feelings, emotions and passions through them. Let's analyse and interpret these poems to know Balkavi's treatment of the various objects of Nature.

#### 1) 'PHULRANI'

Balkavi's imaginative power is blossomed forth to the expression of Nature in the poem 'Phulrani'. In his essay

' बालकवींची कविता ' N.K. Behare points out "

' फुलराणी या कवितेत बालकवींचे निसर्गवर्णन परमोच्चपदाला पोहोचले आहे.

नोपर्यंत मराठी भाषा जिवंत आहे तो पर्यंत या कवितेला मरण नाही.<sup>2</sup>

(In 'Phulrani' Balkavi's description of Nature has reached at the highest point. It will remain alive as long as the Marathi language). In other words, this poem has immortalised Balkavi's name in the history of Marathi poetry. Balkavi has used his imaginative power in a soft and delicate manner in describing

the feelings and emotions of the flower in this poem. The poem represents Balkavi's love and admiration regarding the delicate flower and the sun.

The poem 'Phulrani' is analysed and appreciated by various writers. Here I have translated the analysis of the poem given by V.P. Ginde: "The poet sees a beautiful but innocent bud from which a delicate flower gets blossomed. It is playing joyfully on the cold, delicate green grass. The green grass appears to the poet a delicate carpet of that flower which is described by him a queen of flowers i.e. Phulrani. However, the cold, mischievous evening wind, kisses her and arouses the feelings of love in her. She was ~~unknown~~ of the ways of love in the world but the warm evening wind and other parts of Nature arouse the feelings of love in her. These aspects of Nature motivate her to fall in love with the sun. Then the bird Chandol is seen engaged in fixing the proposal of marriage of Phulrani and the sun. All aspects of Nature put on colourful clothes to attend the wedding ceremony. The wind plays music with its pipe and the stream beats drums. The Bharadwaj dances happily to celebrate the ceremony. Finally, the dew drops perform the wedding ceremony and in this way the wedding ceremony of Phulrani and the sun takes place."<sup>3</sup>

In the present poem Phulrani is personified as a beautiful but innocent girl. Taking the beautiful girl in the form a flower Balkavi has woven a beautiful love-story here. According

to V.P. Ginde "

या कवितेत बालकवीनी फुलराणीच्या रुपाने मानवी भावभावनांचे अविष्करण केले आहे.<sup>4</sup>

(In this poem Balkavi has used the image of flower (Phulrani) through which we see the manifestation of human feelings and emotions). he further points out that Phulrani in this poem is an image of the mind of woman. Here all the objects of Nature are treated as if they are human beings. The various Nature-images, the use of figurative language and impersonation of Nature enrich the content of the poem.

## 2) 'SHRAVANMAS'

Balkavi's Nature poetry can be well seen in the poem 'Shravanmas'. Shravanmas is one of the months in Marathi culture. In the present poem Balkavi portrays the beauty of Nature in the month of Shravana. The birds, trees, stars, springs, and various colours of Nature are vividly painted in the poem. The poet sees the exuberance of colours of various parts of Nature. Such a panorama brings a great delight to his mind.

The poet looks round himself and gets delighted when he sees lovely green grass in the month of Shravana. In this month he finds Nature to be deceptive because the moment he sees the cloudy sky, soon it gets dissolved and rain starts alongwith a sudden flash of lights. When he looks above in the sky, he comes across the comfortable and happy scene of rainbow. The rainbow and the sunlight make beautiful the total

surface of the sky and the earth respectively. The group of heroins moving in the sky assume the shape of fabulous trees. Their coming down and perching on the earth is interpreted as if the stars are coming down on the earth. The birds drenched in rain, the deer running along with their fawns, the calves grazing in the meadows and the sweet sound of pipe are all activities performed in the month of Shravana. The fragrance of the flowers 'Chaffa', 'Kevada', and 'Paarijat' occupies the whole surface of the earth in this month. The maids who are collecting these flowers and going to the temple to pray god are full of delightful and they add the original beauty of Nature. Such is the beauty of Nature described by Balkavi in the poem 'Shravanas'. While describing the beauty of Nature he becomes one with Nature. As a result of this Nature seems very lively to us. So V.P. Ginde says, "

' मोजवया शब्दात बालकवीनी निसर्गातील श्रावण सजीव केलेला आहे.'<sup>5</sup>

(In few words Balkavi has painted lively picture of the month of Shravana.)

### 3) 'SANDHYARAJANI'

Balkavi's impersonation of Nature is well-represented in the poem 'Sandhyarajani'. In it Balkavi has depicted the love affairs between the sun and the west direction and the night and the moon. He has given a good panorama of the meeting of lovers in the poem.

The poem begins with the love affair of the sun and the west direction. The sun and the west direction are personified

and treated as a separate, living entities. Here Balkavi describes that while the sun is setting, he kisses the west direction and so the blushing redness is lingering on her cheeks. When the sun sets, the west direction becomes very nervous and starts to weep. All the rest directions come to her and console her. They make her to give up weeping and also make her believe in that her lover, i.e. the sun, will come again tomorrow. They say her:

' किती पश्चिमे । आतां त्यांचे चिंतन करशील ?  
दृष्टी लावुनी अशीच बसशील सांग किती वेळ ?  
खिन्नपणा हा पुरे, पुरे ग अश्रूंची माळ ।  
उद्यां बरं वा तो राणीला अपुल्या भेटेल.'<sup>6</sup>

In this way the west direction is consoled by the rest direction.

Balkavi then depicts the beautiful picture of another love-affair between the night and the moon. After the sunset all the friends of the night, i.e. the stars, are coming together for playing a game. They are coming together slowly and steadily. It seems as if many beautiful girls have assembled in the courtyard to play a game. Suddenly these stars see the moon, a lover of the night. When the stars observe the wooing of the moon, they get blushed. However, with no time, they stop to feel shy and get indulged in the sea of love. After some time all of them get tired and go to sleep. Then the night is seen singing a lullaby for the whole world and the moon is looking so bright. He starts to wander here and there in the sky. The poet also gets enamoured by the dance of the moon and gets asleep, and the pair of the night and the moon get indulged in their love-affairs.

#### 4) 'MEGHANCHA KAPUS'

The poem 'Meghancha Kapus' is a fine exhibition of Nature. In it Balkavi gives a fascinating description of clouds in the sky. He also paints the beautiful description of the mountains, the stream and the greenery. The poem shows his love and admiration regarding the clouds and other aspects of the Nature.

The poem begins with the description of the different colours of the clouds. The poet assumes the clouds as a scattered cotton. Like the cotton they are filmy. The stars hidden behind the clouds increase the beauty of the clouds. The beauty of the clouds is further increased by the silent moonlight. In the light of the moon the mountains appear to be arranged in a rosary of flowers due to fascinating clouds. The clouds increase the beauty of the mountains. The stream coming down from the mountains seems like the rosery of white diamond. The earth, too, has put on green shawls. Here Balkavi has described not only the beauty of the cloud but also the beauty of the mountains and earth.

#### 5) 'AUDUMBAR'

'Audumbar' is a short Nature poem. In it Balkavi describes the lovely and lively scene of Nature. The poem is the fine combination of Balkavi's expression of emotions and feelings and the beauty of Nature. In his book 'बालकाची कविता':

पृ. २२ रसास्वाद V.P. Ginde points out that Balkavi in this poem describes the picture of a gently flowing stream covered by green grass on both sides. It is flowing through the green islands. Then he depicts the picture of a small village which



is calm and quiet. The row of the hills beautify the picture of the village. Then he describes the green fields and a small path which has many turns. The path is going through the meadows and green fields and reaches to the black pond. The tree of Audumbar stands still on the bank of the pond spreading its shadow all over the surface of the water. The tree seems here meditating upon something.

The picture of Nature depicted in the poem is very enchanting and lively one. However V.P. Ginde quotes D.K. Bedekar's view regarding this poem which is translated here as, "After depicting the contradictory scenes from happiness to misery', or from 'optimism to pessimism' in the first six lines, Balkavi has painted the meditative mood in the last two lines through the object of the tree of Audumbara. This meditative mood means to look at the patient world with a miserable and the isolated mind. The tree of Audumbara has spread its shadow on the surface of water. It is sitting like an innocent man dipping its feet into water. The poet has painted in a very beautiful manner the pitiable condition of his mind which has been caused due to the conflict between hopes and despair."<sup>7</sup>

In short, Nature in the poem 'Audumbar' is an image of the journey of Balkavi's life from happiness to unhappiness, from hopes to despair. It represents emotions, feelings, and personality of the poet. The poem is the fine combination of the two feelings: happiness and gloom.

(6) 'ANANDI-ANAND'

Balkavi's love of Nature is best represented in the poem 'Anandi-Anand'. In it he depicts sheer delight which he gets in the company of Nature. He sees joy in every aspects of Nature and suggests that Nature is the rich treasure of pleasure. He describes the various objects of Nature which are filled with joy and beauty such as the wind accompanied by delight, the colourful clouds, the golden rays of sunlight, smiling flowers, blushing evening, the blue sky, the gently flowing streams, the swaying plants, the song birds, the buzzing black bees, etc. All these natural objects bring a great delight to the mind of the poet. So he is seen dancing with these objects of Nature.

For common readers Nature may not be a thing of pleasure. He may not enjoy and experience the beauty of Nature. However, Balkavi finds beauty in each and every aspects of Nature and says,

आनंदी आनंद गडे ।

इकडे, तिकडे, चौहकडे.<sup>8</sup>

He sees expression of emotion in every aspect of Nature. He sees that such an emotion has brought liveliness and brightness to Nature. He believes that every aspect of Nature can soothe the mind of human beings. Regarding Balkavi's treatment of Nature in this poem Kusumagraj says,

'मानसाच्या परमोच्च आनंदाचे निधान मानवी व्यवहारात नसून निसर्गसौंदर्याच्या निरामय अविष्कारात आहे अशी बालकवींची श्रद्धा होती. या श्रद्धेचे दर्शन त्यांच्या ज्या अनेक कवितांतून होते, त्यातीत ही एक.'<sup>9</sup>

## 7) 'PAAUS'

The poem 'Paaus' depicts one of the glories of Nature, viz rain. In it Balkavi gives the description of clouds. The clouds here are of many colours. Some of them are very dark and others are blue like blue diamonds. Some of the clouds are of purple coloured. When these clouds of various colours gather together in the sky, the wind moves them from either side and suddenly they come down on the earth in the form of rain.

On the surface level the poem seems to us the description of the different colours of the clouds. However, Naganath Kottapalle tries to find out the deeper meaning of the poem. According to him the last four lines of the poem depict the romance of the cloud and the wind. However, Kusumagraj says,

' वर्षादेवीने विविध रंगाच्या मेघाचे भांडार जमविले. त्यावरती कोणीही सरंक्षक नाही असे पाहून वारा त्या ठिकाणी जातो व सर्व मेघ हातांनी अस्ताब्धस्त करतो. त्यामुळे जमीनीवर मोत्याचा पाऊस पडतो.<sup>10</sup>

Here we can note that the poem 'Paaus depicts Balkavi's attraction for the beauty in clouds and his treatment of the wind as a living or separate entity.

8) 'PARAVA'

In 'Parava' Balkavi treats the bird Parva to express his despondant mood. The bird, Parava, is singing here a desperate song of its life. When Balkavi listens the very song, he becomes sad and unhappy. Thus, the poem represents Balkavi's unhappy life through the objects of Nature.

The poem begins with the description of an old caravan-serai. The bird Parava has sat down on the roof of the building. It is singing a desperate song during noon-time. All the birds are taking rest on the trees except Parava. The atmosphere is very hot and dull. all the birds are enjoying rest but Parava is expressing his unhappiness. So the poet feels sympathetic with the bird. But at no time he compares the life of the bird with his own life and says that his life is also sad and unhappy like the bird.

The poem represents the emotions and feelings of Parava and the poet. Here Parava appears as the symbol of Balkavi's desperate and sad life. So V.P. Ginde says,

"पारवा ही कविता कवीच्या भावजीवनाचे प्रत्ययकारी चित्रण करते."<sup>11</sup>

9) 'BHARADWAJAS'

The poem 'Bharadwajas' is addressed to the bird Bharadwaj. In it Balkavi gives the rich description of Nature and treats the various natural objects as means of beauty and joy. Bharadwaj is a very beautiful bird. It swings through the

fields of flowers softly. In this field, there is a stream. The poet here addresses Bharadwaj as the king of the forest. He further describes the beauty of Nature and says that Nature has set up a great pandol for the bird. He also describes that even the goddess of Nature, i.e. Srishtidevata, has bestowed all her glory upon the bird. In short, Balkavi depicts his love and admiration for the bird as well as other objects of Nature in this poem.

#### 10) 'KHEDYATIL RATRA'

The poem 'Khedyatil Ratra' is a short Nature poem. It depicts a fearful picture of Nature. It brings before us the dejected and sad mood of the poet. The poem doesn't make any reference to the event which darkened his life. The events are kept in the background and sadness of the poet is expressed here.

In this poem we get the description of the night in a village. The place is not mentioned. It is unknown. It describes the barren land, broken walls of a bastion and a desolate temple. The whole atmosphere is filled with darkness, fear and despair. While depicting the dark and fearful atmosphere, Balkavi says, ' काळयाशार - त्या गर्द जाळीमध्ये रात देत हुंकार ' 12

In this poem Balkavi describes the various objects of Nature such as a barren land, the howling of jackles, the buzzing sound of the crickets, the black pond, etc. to point out the desolate, sad and unhappy life of the poet. Regarding this

poem V.P. Ginde points out that the poem depicts not only the desolate and fearful description of Nature but also the desolate and desparate life of the poet. In short, Balkavi has given expression to the mood of melancholy and despair overwhelming his life through the objects of Nature.

In all these poems of Balkavi we find the description of the activities of various objects of Nature. These poems show us that Balkavi has treated the various objects of Nature through his senses.

#### IV3) THE SELECTED POEMS OF SHELLEY:

In the ten selected poems of P.B. Shelley Nature plays an important role. In these poems we see a considerable collection of various objects of Nature painted there. In order to know Shelley's treatment of Nature it is better to go through the poems selected for the purpose of study. The ten selected poems of Shelley taken from the book Shelley: Poetical works<sup>13</sup> are as follows:

- 1) 'Ode to the West Wind.
- 2) ' The cloud'
- 3) 'To a Skylark'
- 4) 'The Question' or 'A Dream Of the Unknown'.
- 5) The Sensitive Plant.
- 6) 'To Jane: The Recollection'
- 7) 'Lines Written Among the Euganean Hills.
- 8) 'To the Moon'
- 9) 'To Night'
- 10) 'A Widow Bird Sate Mourning'.

In these poems Shelley treats the various objects of Nature such as the west wind, the cloud, the birds, the flowers, the trees, the sun, the moon, the night, the stars, the hills and dales, the ocean etc. and expresses his feelings, emotions and some philosophical ideas through them.. Let's analyse and interpret these poems to understand Shelley's treatment of these various objects of Nature.

1) ODE TO THE WEST WIND:

Ode to the West Wind is one of the finest of Shelley's Nature poems. In it Shelley presents stormy and peaceful moods of Nature through a number of perfect similes and metaphors. In the book Selections from Shelley C.K. Narayanan quotes "Ode to the West Wind" as Timothy Webb has put it, 'brings together nature', Politics and Shelley's private life in a richly complex fusion which transcends all three"<sup>14</sup> He further says, "the West Wind, the trumpet of prophecy, is the symbol of revolutionary change Shelley always stood for, so its tone is inevitable messianic, exalted,"<sup>15</sup>

In the present poem Shelley describes the effect of the West Wind upon the leaves, the clouds and the waves of waters of the ocean with an observant eye. He observes the effect of the West Wind on leaves and says that the West Wind drives the dead leaves but at the same <sup>time</sup> it preserves the living seeds. So the West Wind is described as 'destroyer and Preserver'. The poet here thinks of the wind as the agent of seasonal change.

He sees that the West Wind drives the leaves from the trees. Then he sees the West Wind carrying on its surface loose clouds. Furthermore, the West Wind is seen singing a song of mourning of the dying year. Then, he sees the West Wind creating huge waves in the Atlantic ocean, and imagines the effect of the West wind upon the plants that grew on the ocean floor. He also imagines the west wind has waking up the Mediterranean from its peaceful sleep during summer. Then he identifies himself with the west wind, and finally feels that the west wind has the power to scatter his dead thoughts all over the world so that they may help in bringing about a Golden Age of mankind.

In this poem we find the treatment of the various objects of Nature such as the west wind, the leaves, the living seeds, the clouds, the storm, Oceans, trees etc. Shelley treats all these objects of Nature not merely as a natural phenomenon but as symbols of many things. Regarding the symbolical significance of the west wind and other objects of Nature in the poem, Richard Harter Fogle says "that the west wind introduces the contrast of death and rebirth. Autumn and spring. he is of the opinion that the west wind stands for "the spirit of revolution or for revolutionary change"<sup>16</sup>. We also find that Shelley regards the west wind in the Fourth stanza of the poem as a symbol of his own personality. It is also regarded as the symbol of powerful influences and forces that will bring about the golden age of mankind. So at the



end of the poem he says,

"The trumpet of Prophecy! O, Wind.

If Winter comes, can spring be far behind?"<sup>17</sup>

In the present ode Shelley imagines natural objects not merely as natural things but as human beings with their own independent lives and personalities. In the poem we see the west wind is not a wind but the separate living entity. In short, 'Ode to the West Wind' is the best example of Shelley's impersonation of Nature. It presents emotions, feelings and philosophical thought of Shelley. In the same way Shelley's love for wild and changing aspects of Nature is best represented in this poem.

## 2) THE CLOUD

In 'The Cloud' Shelley makes the cloud to tell its own life story. So the poem is considered as an autobiography of the cloud. Here Shelley conceives of the cloud as a separate, living entity and gives perfect expression to his capacity for creating stories about natural phenomena, by virtue of which he is called a myth maker. In it he also personifies thunder and lightning and shows his love for the swift, active and impressive aspects of Nature. In the words of C.K. Narayanan, "Written in 1820 and published along with Prometheus Unbound, the poem illustrates how Shelley 'fuses together a creative myth, a scientific monograph and a gay, picaresque tale of cloud-adventure'. It also heightens 'our appreciation of inorganic natural processes by investing them with personality.'"<sup>18</sup>

The poem provides a detailed picture of the cloud's life from birth to death. It begins with the various activities and functions of the clouds. It brings fresh showers from seas and rivers for thirsty flowers. The dew it pours down upon the earth gives new life to the sleeping buds. It is further described as 'the daughter of <sup>the</sup> earth and water and nursling of the sky'. It changes but it cannot die. When the rain ends and the sky becomes bare, it may emerge once again and cover the sky. So C.K. Narayanan points out, "The poem is among the best lyrics of English literature, and reveals Shelley's 'ideals of resurrection and recurrence and his pantheism'. Much as in 'Ode to the West Wind' Shelley's keen sense of Nature and his insight into the unseen power of the universe find expression in the poem. By making the cloud recount 'its cyclical journey from the sky to the earth and back once more to the sky,' Shelley once again shows his grip over the natural phenomena of the wind, the waves and the sky."<sup>19</sup>

The poem shows Shelley's love for the indefinite and changing in Nature. This enabled him to describe better scenery of the cloud and the sky because the appearance of the cloud and the sky undergoes many changes. The poem also provides the beauty of the moon, the stars and other objects of Nature. In short, while reading the poem we feel that we are not reading about a natural force but about a real human individual.

### 3) TO A SKYLARK

'To a Skylark' is another finest Nature poem in which Shelly treats the bird, Skylark, as an object of Nature. Shelley in this ode idealises the singing of the skylark and finds an ecstasy and rapture in the singing of the bird. He also contrasts the sorrow of human life with the joy of the skylark. Regarding this ode C.K. Narayanan says, "Like the other well-known lyrics, 'The Cloud' and 'Ode to the West Wind', 'To a Skylark' gives ample evidence for Shelley's tenacious observation of nature, although the central idea is 'the birds easy movements and fluent song' in contrast to 'Man's clumsy attempts at each'".<sup>20</sup>

The poem gives us the description of the melodious song of the bird. Shelley here tells us that the skylark is not merely a bird, but a spirit. It pours out its full heart from heaven or near it, in unrestrained music which is perfectly spontaneous.

As the skylark sings, it climbs higher and higher and as it climbs upwards, it sings. Through a series of similes Shelley suggests the sweetness of the skylark's music, the invisibility of the skylark and the great height from which the bird sings. Shelley also compares the skylark's music and its life with human life and says,

"We look before and after

And pine for what is not:

Our sincerest laughter

With some pain is fraught:

Our sweetest songs are those that tell of sweetest thought."<sup>21</sup>

Here Shelley feels that the skylark's ability to create a music far surpasses man's music. He, then, pleads with the skylark to teach him even a little bit of the happiness that exists in its mind because he wants to produce such great poetry to make the world happy one like the skylark.

Shelley in this ode idealises the singing of the skylark and contrasts the sorrow of human life with the joy of skylark. But in the words of Stewart C. Wilcox "Woven into the imagery of the poem are three main threads of development: observations of nature and the skylark mainly suggested by the spot in Italy---, suggestive references to the poet's own state of mind in early summer of 1820 when he composed the poem, and philosophical ideas, principally embodied in the bird as a Platonic symbol of the ideal spirit of poetry."<sup>22</sup>

#### 4) A DREAM OF THE UNKNOWN:

'A Dream of the Unknown' is a pure Nature poem. In it Shelley has vividly described an imaginary spot filled with a variety of flowers. It contains a very concrete description of Nature.

Shelley begins by saying that, as he was wandering down a path, the barren winter suddenly changed to spring. The beautiful odours of the spring flowers led him away from his path. He suddenly saw a variety of flowers and then he made a garland of these visionary flowers in order to present it to somebody.

The poem deserves praise for the accurate, detailed and vivid description of a scene of Nature. Shelley gives the description of wind-flowers, violets, daises, oxlips, blue-bells, lilies, eglantines, cherry-blossoms, wild-roses, ivy, flag-flowers and bulrushes. All these appeal to our senses of sight and smell. The vivid and detailed description makes the poem almost Keatsian in its sensuousness. It is a poem that is full of a rich fragrance and is, therefore, highly pleasing.

#### 6) THE SENSITIVE PLANT

'The Sensitive Plant' is a Nature parable. In it Shelley has tried to project a vision of abstract and perfectly harmonious love and beauty in terms of flowers. He also attaches human qualities to flowers in order to elicit the reader's sympathy. The poem suggests Shelley's view on change and decay in Nature and in human life.

The first part of the poem is clearly devoted to a description of the garden and the atmosphere that prevails in it. It also makes the position of the sensitive plant in its relation with other flowers. In the second part of the poem we have the description of the lady who looked after the garden. The lady loved the flowers with heavenly pleasure and protected the flowers by tying rods to support them. The third part of the poem is devoted to the description of the ruin that fall upon the garden after the lady's death. In the conclusion Shelley offers a skeptical philosophy that love and beauty m

be eternal though the body of living being dies and decays.

In the present poem the poet has described the flowers and the sensitive plant in the garden. Throughout the image of the garden Shelley expresses his views on human life and the environment in which man lives.

#### 7) TO JANE:THE RECOLLECTION

The poem 'To Jane : The Recollection' is remarkable for the perfection of Nature description. In it, the poet recalls the beautiful experience he had in the company of Jane Williams when they went to the Pine forest together. The poem describes the soothing effect that the company of Nature had upon him in the Pine Forest.

Shelley's deep sentiment for Jane Williams and his deep love of Nature are intermingled in this poem. The poem expresses the deep impression of the calmness and tranquility of Nature on the mind of the poet. While depicting the tranquility of Nature Shelley says, "the stormy wind was asleep in its nest, the waves of the ocean nearby were half-asleep and there were no clouds in the sky."

The poem illustrates Shelley's belief in the power of Nature to soothe the human heart. Shelley also expresses his pantheistic belief by speaking of the spirit that seems to pervade the whole natural scene.

The poem is also remarkable for its Nature-imagery. In it we get striking pictures of pine trees and waves of ocean half-asleep. In the same way we have the pictures of the reflection of the sky, the sun and the trees in the pools by the side of which Shelley and Jane Williams pause. There is a pleasing concreteness about the Nature-pictures here.

#### 7) LINES WRITTEN AMONG THE EUGANEAN HILLS:

The poem 'Lines Written Among the Euganean Hills' gives expression to Shelley's perpetual melancholy which, on the occasion of composing this poem, was intensified by his immediate personal problems. It is also one of those poems that show Shelley's deep love of Nature.

In this poem we get a number of vivid pictures of Nature. There is, for instance, the picture of the poet listening to the chorus of a multitude of rocks that seemed to greet the majestic rising of the sun and that flew through the dewy mist, with their plums gleaming in the sunlight. Then there is the picture of the sunrise over Venice. There is the picture of 'the noon of autumn's glow' with a soft and purple mist rising and filling the air and the sky. The poem also presents Shelley's pantheistic belief in the power of Nature. Here Shelley speaks of the interpretation of his spirit by the glory of the sky which may be 'love, light, harmony, odour or the soul of all.' Another exquisite picture of Nature is found in the concluding stanza where the poet talks of some flowering

island where Shelley and those whom he loves may find refuge from the troubles of this life. The picture of autumn's evening is also noteworthy. In short the poem 'The Lines Written Among the Euganean Hills' is the best example of Shelley's Nature poetry.

#### 8) TO THE MOON

Shelley has addressed this poem to the moon, one of the objects of Nature. The moon has always been a mystery to human beings. Shelley here weaves a myth round the moon's constantly changing size and varying intensity of light.

The poet thinks that the moon is pale because she is tired of constantly travelling over the sky and always gazing upon the earth. The moon has to wander among stars which are different from her in nature and origin. She is thus without a companion or a comrade. There is also, according to the poet, a reason for the ever-changing shape of the moon. The moon keeps growing bigger and then becoming smaller because she finds no objects worthy of her.

In this short poem Shelley has presented his skill of a creating myths about the objects of Nature. The poem also reflects Shelley's power of word-painting. He has vividly drawn the picture of the moon in this poem.



9) A WIDOW BIRD SATE MOURNING:

In the poem 'A Widow Bird Sate Mourning' Shelley has described the unhappiness of the bird that has lost its mate. The poem presents a beautiful picture of winter scene. It is remarkable for the vividness with which this scene of desolation has been presented to our eyes. It is also remarkable for the intense pathetic effect which it produces by the use of a few words.

In the poem Shelley says, 'The Wind is frozen and here is no leaf on any tree in the forest which is therefore bare. There is no flower growing anywhere. There is not much movement of the air and only sound that can be heard is that of the wheels of the wind-mill. In the midst of this scene is a bird which has lost its mate and which sits forlorn on the leafless branch of the tree.' In short the poem presents the picture of winter scene. It also suggests the idea of a widowed human being mourning his (or her) separation from his (or her) mate.

10) TO NIGHT

In this poem Shelley expresses his deep love of the night. It is wonderful illustration of Shelley's power of making his own myths. In it the night is personified and made to live before us. In the same way Day, sleep, and Death, are also created in the same manner.

Shelley had always loved dark, romantic night, its

loneliness and its mysterious beauty. He had always loved the stormy elements of Nature. That is why, in this poem, he requests Night to come to him quickly. Here Shelley expresses his deep love for Night.

There are a number of exquisite nature pictures in the poem. Night is imagined as living in some lonely and misty eastern cave where she weaves dreams of joy and fear for human beings. Night is also pictured as wearing a gray cloak studded with stars. When Night appears, she blinds with her dark hair the eyes of Day and kisses day till he is exhausted and retires from the scene. Night is then depicted as wandering over city, sea and land and producing a sleepy effect upon all living beings. We also have the picture of the sun riding high and dew vanishing, the picture of flower and trees oppressed by the heavy weight of noon. In short the poem 'To Night' is one of Shelley's remarkable Nature poems.

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