

Romantic Era

- *French and Industrial revolutions and their effects
- *Influences of both revs. on the poetry of Blake, Wordsworth, Shelley
- *New Topics and Style for Poetry and Paintings: Nature, the glorification of the ordinary, rustic life, simple language, and rhyme schemes.
- *Wordsworth's declaration re. above topics in his Preface to L.B.
- *Differences between Blake and later Romantics: Coleridge and Wordsworth
- *Definition of a poet's role in society:
 - *Blake: "voice of the Bard"
 - *Wordsworth: "What is a Poet?"
 - *Coleridge: "The Poetic Imagination"
 - *Shelley "Defense of Poetry"
- *Coleridge: The Supernatural in the natural world: "Rime of the Ancient Mariner"
- *The Ballad versus the Ode - 2 very different forms of poetry
 - *Ode: Hymn, song of praise
 - *Ballad: written to be sung. all musical qualities. beat, rhyme, and often a story.
- *Alienation of the Individual from Society: Shelley and Keats
 - *Ahead of his time. Society lagged a bit. Left England, self exiled. (Shelley)
 - *Keats=wasn't a highclass poet, all others were U. educated., wrongly criticized as being too optimistic. Withdrew into his own self.
- *The art of writing poetry: Wordsworth: "emotion recollected in tranquility": "I wandered Lonely as a Cloud..."; Coleridge: "Kubla Kahn".; Shelley "To a Skylark"; Keats: "ode to a nightingale"
 - *Both poems are of birds; poets cannot escape, stuff must be rooted in the lives they have led, experiences they have had. They are not dreamers, but poets.

Preromantic: Blake

Shelley, younger romantic: did not lose his imperialism

Wordsworth: Forced to leave France/England. Wife and child. Escaping into nature.

Borrowing from Rousseau, a child raised away from big cities=gentler, kinder...

bit difference between early romantics and later romantics: interest in same themes,

BUT RELIGION. Blake was deeply religious. He didn't like the church, but he was a

devout christian. Wordsworth and Coleridge's stand on religion: pantheists=Wordsworth

(best worship God through his creation i.e. Nature, best seen in "Tintern Abbey" Nature,

temple is nature) Coleridge=supernatural in the natural world, not necessarily biblically.

Shelley and Keats = atheists. Do not speak much about religion at all.

2nd 1/2 ok Kubla Kahn:" revive within me, her symphony and song, I would build that

done in air." In imagination, bring to life the palace of Kubla Kahn. Don't need to go

there, but I have the creative spirit to do it.