

KARNATAK ARTS COLLEGE  
DHARWAD

ENGLISH SEMINAR

SUBMITTED BY :

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BA - II SEMESTER

'C' DIVISION

ROLL. NO. : 314

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ACADEMIC YEAR - 2021-22

Explores the idea of true love in the story "The Nightingale and the Rose".

Abstract : The paper attempts to probe the idea of true love in the story "The Nightingale and the Rose". Sacrifice is explored through Nightingale's benevolence for the sake of genuine love and for helping other people. It reveals how one life would sacrifice itself to make another happy, rather than being selfish.

Key words : True-love, unrealistic, sacrifice, rationality, ~~Materialism~~, self-seeking, beauty.

The story "The Nightingale and the Rose" is written by Oscar Wilde, deals with philosophical and emotional issues. It is full of indirect comments on life, personifications and symbolism. Moreover, the story raises the most common issues of materialism and idealism present in the commercial society.

The story begins with a young student who is lamenting in his garden because the love of his life will dance with him in the hall only if he brings her a red rose but, there is no red rose in his garden. The Nightingale, living in the oak-tee of his garden, hears the young man crying over his helplessness and lamenting the fact that all his learning is useless since it cannot win him a girl's love. The Nightingale comes to know that the young man is weeping for a red

rose. She feels the pain of that boy and wants to help him.

She performs a suicidal act while singing with her heart on the thorn, giving her blood to a white rose which turns it into a beautiful red rose. In this process the nightingale dies. The student plucks it joyously and brings it to his love. The girl rejects the rose by saying that it will not match her dress and someone else has brought her jewels that are worth more than a rose. The boy throws the rose in the gutter and decides that logic is better than love and love is unrealistic. He goes back to his home and starts reading a book.

In order to find the meaning of true love, Wilde relates and distinguishes two sorts of love. First, the story presents love, which involves a high cost: a nightingale gives her life. On the other hand, it presents a second sort of love between the young girl and the student. When the student got the rose, suddenly the girl swings her mind as another admirer has given her some ornaments.

By exposing the story's characters in this way, the writer clarifies that true love contains countless sacrifices. If love is constituted based on wealth or belongings, it is not true at all. In the story the 'true lover' was the Nightingale. She was the only one with sincere feelings, and for those feelings,

she was prepared to sacrifice her life. Even though she knew she would not gain anything in return. The fact was only love to her. She was doing it for her love and that she was making her beloved happy it was enough for her. This is how love should be. We can have explicit learning from the bird how we should act for our loved ones.

The story ties-up the student's extreme - Rationality to the girl's materialism. Since he realizes the world merely in terms of "realism", the student can't come out with a sense of unselfish behaviour. It does not make any value for the person or the bird by practicing it.

Considerably, the girl is the most self-seeking as well as a possessive character in the story. Her logic for refusing the student's red rose was, "Everyone knows that jewels price is far more than flowers".

The only feeling the student had for the girl are material love since he was only impressed by her beauty. Hence, when the girl denied him, he threw the rose and returned to his study, realizing love is nothing but impractical. Since he didn't appreciate the true love of Nightingale, in return, he also got nothing.

Love is such a pure feeling that it cannot be explained or dealt with materialism and beauty.

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~~Wilde, Oscar~~

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KARNATAKA ARTS & COLLEGE  
DHWARWAD



ENGLISH



ASSIGNMENT-09

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2) Discuss the Title "Silver Lining" with reference to the story:

Generally, some people try to show that they are very happy, even though they suffer with lot of problems. Some other people pretend as if they are very unhappy even after they lead a happy life. The people try to show they are happy as they do not want to hurt others by sharing their sorrows. This is what the narrator of their story tries to focus upon. He describes his own experiences when he stayed in a private guest house in one of the hill resorts.

The hostess of the private guest house was living with her husband and a daughter. The daughter is the main character of their story. The lady belonged to South Indian and she had married a North Indian. She was other dark, but had a very pleasant face, as smiles and kindness. She was kind enough to make the narrator very comfortable in his stay at the guest house. She took care of him in every aspect beginning from bed tea to the dinner. So within no time he became very familiar with family. Her name was Mrs. Bhandari. She was a landlady. She had a daughter of about 8 years old, who was very trying to avoid the narrator. The narrator was unfriendly to her.

One day the narrator asked the name of the girl. The girl did not tell her name and just shook her head. Later she ran away from that place with tears in her eyes. The narrator was surprised. Her parents also had a painful look. Then Mr. Bhandari, told that the girl could not speak and could not hear. So she did not speak.

to him. The narrator was very sorry to know that the pretty girl was dumb and deaf. He set that he had wronged her and her parents.

The narrator began to think of the plight of the parents of the girl. Nobody from outside knows that the girl is dumb and deaf. Everyone tries to speak to the girl because she is pretty & lovely. The girl could not respond to them - They will mistake her. Then parents have to tell that the girl cannot speak & hear. Everybody will feel sorry. This is not the matter of one day or one time, because everyday one or two guests will leave the guest house & new guests will come. Same things will repeat again. Every time it could result in the child silently smiling, sighing withdrawing, leaving looks of silently smiling, sighing withdrawing, leaving looks of agony on the faces of her parents. Often it would lead to lengthy explanations as to how the calamity had come about, if it was from birth, or the result of an accident whether anyone else in the family suffered from a similar disability, and if any treatment was being given. The queries were answered by the parents reluctantly and with obvious anguish.

During that time the girl would be the topic of discussion. She did not go to school because none was there to cater her needs. Her parents had tried to teach her at home unsuccessfully. All her hands. Sometimes it was torture to others. The next contented as "our daughter is deaf & dumb. You may that hurt her feeling by trying to be trained with her. Approach you and make your acquaintance" Thank you".



The Idea worked well. The parents well felt bit relief and the poor chit was also spared. Later the girl herself slowly become intimate with many of the guests. The Bhandaris felt relieved and thought that at least one of their problems was temporarily solved.

But a strange visitor arrived to the guest house one day. His visit was intimated to Bhandaris and they arranged every thing for his stay.

He was about 25 years old. He had a cheerful face & jet black eyes sparkling with vitality. He found a sealed envelope containing the typed chit lying on the table, addressed to him by name. He read the chit and gave a smile around and went directly to the garden where the girl Promodini was playing. Bhandaris were upset to see his movement. They thought that the young man was ignoring their request not to hurt the girl. They went to the garden and saw that the girl was sitting on the lap of the young man and he was showing flowers to her. Both were walking hand in hand and the girl was very happy in his company. He had been educated in one such institution abroad and now he had returned to India to render the same useful service to others. Now Bhandaris come over of all worries about their daughter.

## Describe William Blake through as Expressed in the Poem "The Tiger"

The poem begins with the speaker asking a fearsome tiger what kind of divine being could have created it: "What immortal hand or eye / could frame  
thy fearful symmetry?" Each subsequent stanza contains further questions, all of which refine their first one from what part of the cosmos could the tiger's fiery eyes have come and who would have dared to handle that fire? what sort of physical present and what kind of dark would have been required to "twist the sinews" of the tiger's heart? "began to beat", its creator would have had the courage to continue the job. Comparing the creator to a blacksmith, he ponders about the anvil and the furnace that the project would have required and the smith who would have wielded them and when the job comparing the creator to a blacksmith, he ponders and when the job was done, the speaker wonders. How would the creator have felt? Did he smile his work to see? "could there possibly be the same being who made the lamb?". in which a string of questions all contribute to the articulation of a single, central idea.

The opening questions enact what will be the single dramatic gesture of the poem and each subsequent stanza elaborates on this conception. Blake is building on the conventional idea that nature, like a work of art, must in some way contain a reflection of its creator. The tiger is strikingly beautiful yet also horrific in its capacity for violence. What kind of a god, then, could or would design such a terrifying beast as the tiger? In more general terms, what does the world tell us about the nature of God, and what does it mean to live in a world where a being can at once contain both beauty and horror?

The Tiger initially appears as a strikingly sensuous image. However, as the poem progresses, it takes on a symbolic character, and comes to embody the spiritual and moral problems the poem explores. Perfectly beautiful and yet perfectly destructive, Blake's tiger becomes the symbolic center for an investigation into the presence of evil in the world. Since the tiger's remarkable nature exists both in physical and moral terms, the speaker's questions about its origin must also encompass both physical & moral dimensions.

The Poem's series of questions repeatedly ask what sort of physical creative capacity the "Fearful Symmetry" of the tiger he speaks, presumably only a very strong and powerful being could be capable of such a creation.

"The Lamb". "The Tiger" consists entirely of unanswered questions and the poet leaves us to awe at the complexity of creation, the sheer magnitude of God's power and the inscrutability of divine will. The perspective of experience in their poem involves a sophisticated acknowledgment of what is unexplainable in the universe, presenting it as the prime example of something that cannot be denied, but will not withstand facile explanation, either. The open awe of "The Tiger" contrasts with the easy confidence in "The Lamb," of a child's innocent faith in benevolent universe.

# English Assignment

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