

ODE TO THE WEST WIND

ODE TO the west wind is a ^{Communion} ~~communion~~ between the poet and the spirit of the west wind. The poem opens ^{with} an apostrophe ~~to the west wind~~. He defines it as "The breath of Autumn's being". The poet says that the dead leaves get frightened by the west wind at the start running away from the branches of the tree. Here the poet gives an imaginative explanation for the falling of the ~~tree~~ ^{leaves} ~~leaves~~. Shelley had the knack of converting the concrete into abstract. He compares the falling of the ~~leaves~~ ^{leaves} to the fleeing of ghost at the sight of an enchantress. Here Shelley ~~presents~~ a contrast with Keats who converted the abstract into concrete. This is not all Shelley piled image upon image and simile upon ~~simile~~ ^{simile}. He compares the falling of ~~leaves~~ ^{leaves} to the pestilence stricken multitude.

Then the poet ~~presents~~ ^{presents} the west wind as a harbinger of new life. The wheel of its chariot reaches the wintry bed of seed and enables it to germinate. So the west wind is a symbol of both destruction and ~~cre~~ ^{cre}ation. It infuses life into those seeds which lie like corpses under the ground.

The west wind and the spring are presented as two sisters. The spring gives her clarion call to the earth which appears sleeping and dreaming about it. At the call of the spring the earth wakes up and puts on multi coloured dress. All the plain and the hill on the earth breath out odours. The poet praises the west wind and then addresses it as the 'Destroyer and preserver'. The west wind is a panegyric to the west wind.

The blow of the west wind is compared to ~~follow~~^{flow} to the stream. A stream carries away everything that comes in the way of its flow. In the same way the west wind carries away everything that comes in the way of its blow. The west wind creates commotion in the sky and carries loose patches of cloud in the sky from one corner to another. Just as it carries away dead leaves from the tree and scatters on the ground. In this stanza the poet describes might and action of the west wind on the earth and in the sky. The poet says that the sky and the ocean appears as tangled boughs of the earth.

The blow of the ~~we~~ wind causes commotion both in the sky and on the surface of the ocean. Where the patches of cloud are driven in the sky, tides and the current are created on the surface of the ocean. It also causes rain and lightning.

Here the poet describes the impact of the blow of the west wind on the earth ocean and in the sky. He says that ocean appears like a ~~me~~meand and the portion of the sky which touches the ocean appears like head of meand. The moving patches of cloud in the sky look like the flowing gray hair of the meand. Shelley piles image upon image in his poem. The blow of the west wind appears to be a dirge on the dying year. The closing year of the night of the year appears to be a dome which is filled up ~~th~~ with the congregated might of the west wind. It begets ~~or~~ rain lightning, and hail stone. The poet presents the west wind as a harbinger of lightning and rain, ~~and~~ hail hail.

The wind bring about commotion on the surface of the mediterranean

mediterranean sea which appears to be dreaming and sleeping because of its poise. This is not all, it frightens all these things which lie buried at the bottom mediterranean sea. Everything at the bottom appears quivering because of its fright. He gives a sensuous description of the beauty and fragrance and at the bottom of mediterranean sea. Things lying on the bottom remain so static that a large number of flowers glow upon them. These flowers spread fragrance under the water. The poet says that his sense faints in picturing them. The poet gives an imaginative explanation for the grey colour of the sea blooms. He says that the sea blooms grow grey because of fear of the west wind. The west cleaves the leveled surface of the atlantic ocean and creates a chasm there. It frightens the tiny plants and blooms under water and they lose colour.

After praising the west wind as a mighty force, the poet expresses his wish to be a part of the west wind.

Shelley expresses regret over incapability for sharing the strength of the west wind. He pines for not being a alive, wave or patches of a cloud. To pine for what is not is a Romantic trade. The poet feels jealous of the west wind because it is all free and uncontrollable. The poet has great love for liberty which is enjoyed by the west wind. Shelley praises the west wind as a symbol of force. He says that the west wind influences ~~star~~ strength even into the dead leaves in inanimate waves and clouds. He requests the west wind to lift him as a leaf away and a cloud that is because he has fallen upon the thorns of life. He is bleeding and dying. He says that wants to a company to west wind because he is also as much ~~as~~ tame less swift as the wind is. But the weight of heavy hours has chained and bowed him. He can not move erect and fast. He requests the west wind to ~~to~~ give him strength.

In these lines the poet explains his position and expresses his longing.

Then the poet requests the west wind to make him his lyre. so that he might sing as the forest sings. The forest is looked upon as the lyre of the west wind. It is true that his leaves are ~~falling~~^{falling} because he has grown old. But like the trees he will also put on green leaves very soon. The tumult of the mighty harmony will lend autumnal ~~to~~ tone to the poet. It will appear ~~song~~ although it will remain sad. sweet sweetness comes out of sadness.

The poet requests the west wind to be his spirit so that he might ~~find~~ satisfaction.
feel