



# The Impersonation of Nature in the Poetic Consonance of Emily Dickinson

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## ABSTRACT

The paper concerns with the art of nature in Emily Dickinson poetry and The Impersonation of Nature in his Poetic Consonance. It discusses the element of nature throughout his poems specifically the ones chosen in this paper and the researcher discuss them and show the concepts of nature. The researcher present and defines the statement of the paper in the very beginning of and sets some questions and objectives to prove the study under discussion. Analyse the theme of nature by giving indication from the poem to confirm the influence of nature more clearly. Nature plays a very important effect in the poetic consonance of Dickinson's. She always considers herself as a very lonely poet and her poetry is filled with emotional, psychological, symbolic, physical, and pragmatist facets. An important characteristic of her poems is her association with the world of nature. In her life, she spends most of her time thinking about the mysteries of nature. For that reason, her poems bear immeasurable resonances of nature. This paper is concern with how the natural elements of Emily Dickinson's poems connect with life, and how she describes the nature in her poems. The researcher selected two poems of Emily Dickenson to show the poetic consonance of nature. The poems that researcher selected are 'A bird Come down the Walk' and ' Nature, the Gentlest Mother's 'which are two greatest poems of Emily Dickinson, relating with Eco-Feminist criticism. Finally, the paper is concluded and clarifies the outcome and gives some suitable recommendations.

**Keywords:** Impersonation, Nature and Poetic Consonance.



## 1. Introduction

Poetry in large area in English language Emily Dickinson has a very unique style of writing. She uses the dash and capitalization in poem, she also use caponizes nouns, she also change the function of word. Emily wrote about she knew, she used images from nature, religion , law, music- domestic activities, medicine- fashion, to prove universal theme that uses the wonders to nature.

### 1.1 Questions of the Study

- 1- Why Emily Dickinson always uses image style?
- 2- What is the figure of speech used by Emily?
- 3- What are the main features of Emily Dickinson?

### 1.2 The Objective of the Study

- To explore his influence of people knowledge in widen ways.
- To oversee deepening and analysis whenever more learning.

### 1.3 The Significance of the Study

The significance of this study is to represent the nature of bird and sea. These areas is very important, because the writer speaks about nature of the see-bird, it have something blended between fact and image.

### 1.4 Limitations of the Study

This study is limited to the poems to research, the importance of the nature of the bird in his poem.

## 2.1 Review of literature

Emily Dickinson was born Amherst- Massachusetts in December 10, the daughter of Edward Dickenson. Edward Dickenson was a prominent lawyer who ranked as Amherst's leading citizen. Her mother Emily Norcross Dickinson she ineffectual and distant from her children Emily close to Austin brother and Lavonia younger sister, all enjoyed romps in countryside one opportunity arose. Emily lived under father's roof. At ten Emily was enrolled at Amherst Academy studied until attended Mount Holyoke Female Seminary in South Hadley. She proved to be a good student, but



suffered from homesickness and poor health, she did not return for second year this brief period of the study and few trips to Boston Philadelphia and Washington.

Emily Dickinson family gave her a kind of freedom her sister Lavinia encourage her to write during this time Emily wrote poetry as well as the effect letters to friends and family. Even to her brother Austin and has wife Sue, who lived next door with their three children. She became more famous stopped attending Church and left home in her fifty five years old. During the 1860, her most creative period, Dickinson starts meets several editors, especially Thomas Wood worth Higginson and gave her advice about her poem. She was, in fact, an independent thinker and quite a rebel for her time in spite of public pressures she fell in love with married minister, she chose not to marry and became a recluse – partly to allow herself the independence to develop her own thoughts, her, originality and independence show through in her poetry.

Emily Dickinson inspiration for her poetry reading and reflection and from observation of her own and yard take a mental walk through your home and neighbourhood. Her father death was in Aston 1871, was the first of a number of personal losses, he mother suffered from paralysis in 1825 and died in 1882. After Dickinson death in 1886, her sister Lavinia discovered drawers full of poems see together into little book called fascicles. Emily wrote about 10115 poems only seven were published during her life time; Lavinia divided the poems giving some to Austin's wife Sue and others to Mabel Loomis Todd. In 1955, when Harvard University published the poems of Emily Dickinson edited by Thomas H. Johnson Dickinson write about her house –village or about nature or death, her observation are decidedly hers, readers experience her joys, her pains and her most secret thought, more as confident than as observes because her staring honestly and originality. Dickinson produced some of the remark poems in American literature.

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### 3. Analyse and Discussion

#### 3.1 Analysis of 'A bird Come down the Walk'

*A Bird Came Down the Walk*

*He did not know I saw:*

*He bit an angle – worm in halves*



*And at the fellow, raw*

*And then he drank dew*

*From a convent grass*

*And then hopped sidewise to the wall*

*To let a beetle pass*

*He glanced with rapid eyes*

*That hurried all abroad*

*They looked like frightened beads I thought*

*He stirred his velvet head*

*Like one in danger: cautions*

*I offered him a crumb*

*And he unrolled his features*

*And rowed him softer home*

*Those oars divide the ocean*

*Too silver for a seam*

*Or butterflies off banks of noon*

*Leap splash less as they swim*



The speaker observes the bird and tries to establish contact with the bird by offering it food. The bird flies off. A few of the speaker's details describe the bird as a wild creature in nature and more details present his behaviour and his appearance in terms of human behaviour.

### Stanza one

Because the bird does not know the speaker is present, behaves naturally that is, his behaviour is not affected by her presence. "we see the bird's 'wildness' or non-humanness in his biting the worm in half and eating 'raw' continues to emphasize his wildness. Ironically, the word 'raw' carries an implication of civilized value and practices 'raw' implicitly contrasts with cooked food' why mention that the bird eat the worm raw would you expect the bird to cook the worm? In contrast, the fact that the bird 'came down the walk' sounds civilized, socialized does this description sound like someone walking on a sidewalk.

### Stanza two

The birds' drinking dew (note the alliteration) suggests a certain refinement and 'from a grass' makes the action resemble the human action of drinking from a glass- and the bird politely allows a beetle to pass.

### Stanza three

In lines one and two, the description of the bird's looking around is factual description and suggests the bird's caution and fear, as well as a possible threat in nature. With lines three and four, the speaker describes the bird in terms of civilization, with 'beads' and 'velvet'.

### Stanza four

The idea of danger in nature is made explicit but remains a minor note in this stanza and the poem. It occupies only half a line 'like one in danger' 'cautious', the speaker offers the crumb. How is 'cautious' meant? Does the speaker feel the need to be cautious? Or does she offer the crumb cautiously? (One of the characteristics of Dickinson's poetry is a tendency to drop ending as well as connecting words and phrases: you have to decide whether she has dropped the -ly ending from 'cautious'.

Her action causes the bird lofty off her description of his flight details his beauty and the grace of his flight, a description which takes six lines. Does the idea of danger or of the bird's beauty receive more emphasis or are the danger and the beauty



emphasized equally? Does it matter in this poem whether one receives more emphasis than the other that is would the different emphases affect the merging of the poem? I suggest that this poem reveals both the danger and the beauty of nature. Does the poem support this reading? What might Dickinson's purpose be in having the narrator see the bird in 'civilized' terms? Is it away or of controlling the threat and terrors that always present and may suddenly appear in nature.

### 3.2 Nature, the Gentlest Mother's

*Nature- the gentlest mother's*

*Impatient of no child*

*The feeblest or the way warmest*

*Her Admonition mild*

*In forest – and the hill*

*By traveller- be heard-*

*Best raining rampant squirrel*

*Or too impetuous bird*

*How fair her conversation*

*A summer afternoon*

*Her household- her assembly*

*And when the sun goes down*

*Her voice among the Aisles*

*Incite the timid prayer*

*of the minutes cricket*



*The most unworthy flower*

*When all the children sleep*

*She turns as long away*

*As will suffice to light her lamps*

*Then bending from the sky*

*With infinite affection*

*And infinite care*

*He golden finger on her lip*

*Wills silence – everywhere*

*(February 26- w009 Academic Brooklyn education)*

Nature the gentlest mother is a poem by Emily Dickinson that personifies nature through a perfect mother. Dickinson uses the view of a person in order to create a better understanding of the complexity of nature's position furthermore of nature's position furthermore, this poem and her children, while the humans serve as an interloper and thus separate from nature's virtue.

### **First stanza**

Dickinson's first line is that of the title: 'nature the gentlest mother is'. She uses this as the title of poem because alone it is a phrase that could virtually be followed by anything. This gives the mood a creative spin, which Dickinson aspired towards. She wants this mother, which is the main subject of the poem, to have a boundless realm of sufficient qualities for her children. This makes the connection with the word "gentlest" making these qualities purposefully respectable. The next line to follow the first since the poem ultimately deals with mother and how she treats her children. The next line states that she is feeble towards the way ward west. Back in the time Emily Dickinson was alive the idea of 'west' was a mystery. It was a place that was full of wilderness that could lead to fortune or despair. However, since nature is personified through a mother, she is technically symbolized as this west even though she is the



feeblest. By saying she is feeble, she still maintains that gentle personae. And in the last line of the stanza, her admonition is mild since she is gentle. If her admonition were even less than mild, the archetype mother she is portraying to be would diminish and if it would be greater than mild, the result would be the same while also not meeting the quality of being gentle. Through summarizes the rest, thus the reason for making it the title.

### Second stanza

Realm is mentioned in the first line, when Dickinson mentions forest and hill, she is giving an overall realm in which Mother Nature controls her children. Humans do not naturally live in the water thus, making it not apply to this reference. Plus, in the next line a human is introduced into the poem. Whenever most humans are observing nature in its various forms they are ultimately travelling. In this context the word travelling doesn't necessarily mean a person who is exploring unfamiliar land. Mostly, it means a person observing an unfamiliar habitat. Nature is mentioned to not be impatient of anyone, written in the previous stanza. However, this human has the connotation of an outsider. In the last two lines of the second stanza Dickinson describes animals avoiding the traveller. As mentioned before, a main spring is the season of birth which is incorrect this context since nothing is being born. Winter is the season of death. Both are obviously unsuitable, thus giving more reason towards summer. Afternoon is of similar relation where it is the time of day where nature, including humanity, is most lively. Next, house and assembly is compared, symbolizing the world or planet earth. A mother usually controls a household thus personifying nature's controls over earth. Also, in this stanza, the rhyme noticeably changes before the rhyme scheme was alternatively, while in this particular stanza, there is no rhyme. This makes the transition abrupt and as stated noticeable. It stanza as a divide between the first half of the poem where the first three stanzas focus on the day and the last focus on the night, not only does this provide the connotation of a cycle such as the seasons and life itself but also it divides the foes of part of the theme. The mother's qualities towards her children are organized towards the top while the qualities of her action are mostly at the bottom.

### Stanza three

Her conversation is mentioned as being fair. The sound conversation is based on the noises of nature. In the previous stanza, the animals are said to have stopped making noise once the human approached so this line is referring to the previous stanza's action in her protecting her children her action are fair and just. Dickinson is basically





one the side of the mother which definitely clears her intensions of writing the poem in this particular fashion. After, she mentions a summer, afternoon, this provides another mood towards the reader. She mentions this specific season to make the statement that all her children are animated and lively.

#### **Stanza four**

In the fourth stanza, which is the beginning of the next half of the poem, it describes nature's voice flowing between aisles. Aisles are normally in a church which makes this mother seem like she is faithful to God. This further proves that nature is the perfect mother. The next line furthermore exemplifies this theory. Nature's voice is being described as if parrying. She is pray for her children which are listed below to what humans would usually think as inferior. One of which is an "unworthy flower" flowers that are wilted or ugly one seen as even more inferior since this plant is perceived as the most beautiful of all creations. Dickinson stresses the juxtaposition in an ugly flower in order to crate this inferior image.

#### **Final stanza**

In the final stanza the same alternating rhyme scheme is introduced giving as mother appeal to the reader. Nature is described as putting her golden finger on her lip. This personifies as the sun setting since night follows the sun and introduces the quite qualities of night when she 'wills' silence, she doesn't force it. Since she is perfect mother forcing something would contradict her ideally gentle qualities.

Characteristics of the poem are introducing a figure or an object that has a larger meaning when having relation with whatever is being introduced. This is a cleverer version of symbolism and personification. The first example is nature which personifies a mother. In this particular stanza as whole, the meaning is more hidden instead of generally stated such as before the forest and hill only mean the part of the have not used. This relates to the previous stanza when Dickinson states 'wayward west' humans ten to have a habit of introducing themselves to a beautiful environment only to destroy in their process of needing to conquer when she mentioned the squirrel and bird. She describes them as being restrained, rampant and

Impetuous Mother Nature is basically restraining her children, from someone that could possibly dangerous. She sees human as her children, but she knows that many have a nature of destruction so pushing her other children to conceal themselves from the interlopers is her solution. As whole, this symbolizes the divide in characteristics



between nature and humanity, which is the main theme of the poem: nature is peaceful, while humans are obstructive.

#### 4.1 Conclusion

Emily Dickenson feels the necessary and profundity of nature. It plays an important role to make her poetic theme glorious and age worthy. To her nature is extremely harmonious it is an image of human. She considers nature as the gentlest mother as she finds mother like love amidst nature. Nature is the source of joy and beauty. Actually, we cannot refuse Emily Dickinson actual fascination to nature especially in her poem 'A Bird Came down the Walk' and "A narrow fellow in the Grass'. The final Emily Dickinson, she uses all was image.

#### 4.2 Findings

- Nature is an important factor in the creation of beauty in the romantic poetry.
- Dickinson continues with the image of the snake by writing.
- A narrow fellow in the Grass" occasionally rides you, metaphors that assign physical qualities to the abstract feeling of 'hope' in order to flesh out the nature of the word and what it means to human consciousness.

#### 4.3 Recommendations

- The researcher recommends all who study at universities in English departments to read about English poetry.
  - The poetry of Dickinson is telescope too see the secrets of nature.
  - All students should be aware about English language from the basic and their teacher should be among of them and observe in for skills.
- The researcher recommends the students to be honest and obey the teacher and educators.
- The researcher advices to the ministry of education to add the parts of poetry in the secondary.



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