

## ROMANTIC FRAGRANCE OF BERNARD .M. JACKSON

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Romantic Movement is the golden period of English literature that left a great impact not only on the peeping poets but also the other literatures of the world. Wordsworth's simplicity, Keats' sensuousness, Coleridge's supernaturalism and Shelley's philosophy impressed a number of poets across the continent. Bernard .M. Jackson, one of the leading English poets of global creative milieu, belongs to the romantic tradition of poetry because the romantic elements-- love of nature, humanism, melancholy, rural landscape, love, beauty, imagination, dream, imagery and lyrical outburst are frequently found across his poetic grove .

“I have traced greened earth before me  
In a counterpane of fields,  
And climbed the craggy rocks ,the highest hill,  
I have marvelled at creation ,  
Smiled on all that Nature yields;  
I have sipped from life , yet never had my fill.”<sup>1</sup>. ( 2001: 44)

Nature and her pigmented colours is the divine gifts of the superpower on this earth where all the human beings are expected to enjoy in its full swing without defacing its original colour, design and sanctity .The greenery of the earth, the craggy rocks and the highest hill –are all for our sake .The poet has tasted the sip of a cup of her beauty in life, yet he wishes to inhale the fragrance of natural beauty more and more .The natural beauty enraptures his poetic heart with great enthusiasm and fervor and creates literary sensations in his life .Like Keats his poetic passion lies in the green meadow , crag rocks, highest hills, pigmented colors, and its iridescence , roaring clouds, tempestuous winds , blooming buds , fragrant flowers, chirping birds , twinkling stars, peeping moon , running rivers and various other natural objects that stir sensations in his romantic poetic heart time and again. The more he inhales the fragrance of natural beauty ,the more thirsty he becomes after its glimpse . Like Wordsworth Jackson embraces simplicity , clarity , frankness, and capital idea all through his poetic journey.

To Keats heard melodies are sweet but those unheard are sweeter. Melodious music pleases the heart ,but the natural music sends us in the celestial world of vision. Natural music is the divine bliss on this earth and all

livingbeings must enjoy it in its full swing. It is more beautiful than beauty itself, more fragrant than flower itself and more starry than the star itself. As a result this poetic heart murmurs while he inhales the fragrance of natural beauty through this stanza.

“These wondrous eyes more precious are  
Than finest crock of gold  
How blest am I by Nature’s charm;  
To woodland sounds I cling  
Where cool winds sigh  
Through rustled leaves  
And countless songsters sing.”<sup>2</sup>. (2001:36)

R.N.Tagore has remained a great lover of nature in general and spring in particular. To Choudhary spring is a bride. Spring is the most favorable season in which the flower blossoms, and becomes fragrant, trees are laden with green leaves, meadow becomes green, birds twitter in the sky, the clouds roar in the sky, animals are in animal spirits, and human beings are in the seventh heaven. Spring comes with new dream, novel thought, sensation, capital idea, new spirits, heavenly ecstasy and what not? It is the fragrance of spring that enlivens the head horse for the sensitive world. It is spring that is a saturation bombing on the heart –rending. Daffodils, foxgloves and other flowers bloom in this season and please the passersby. The spring of season, spring of life, spring of success, spring of earth etc symbolize the climax point of juvenile period. As a spring suitor Jackson’s heart bursts forth at the natural beauty of spring:

“Now daffodil and foxglove come to bloom,  
And bluebelled shades give rise to silvan glow.  
From lofty ridge to lowly hidden coombe.  
Fair Nature brings to bear her seasoned show;  
And those who find her magic long shall sing  
In praise of these-remembrances of spring.”<sup>3</sup>. (2001:14)

The romantic poets have great fond of birds – skylark, cuckoo, nightingale, owl, hawk, vulture and many others that appeal most to all of them. All these birds make our environment fragrant and lovely on this earth because they are away from the materialistic lives. They lead heavenly life and sing in full-throated ease and drenches the earth with their melodious music.

Often I had heard the bird,  
His clacking clamour out of leaves  
In shards of broken melody,  
And once, within a ring of trees,  
I’d seen him spring:

A clumsy, vain, ungainly thing,  
Beating out from shortened flight,  
His journeying of brakes.4. (2001:32)

Like the romantic poets B.M. Jackson is a passionate lover of the brooks, lakes, hills, clouds, green meadows, running rivers and blossomed flowers that are the things of joy for ever for the sensitive souls. The line –‘sublime, sedate and slow’- is an example of the alliterations used by this renowned poet. Every thing goes on silently in course of time without humdrums and noisy atmosphere. It is Nature that is cool, calm and fragrant. River flows silently, bird sings melodiously, flower blossoms silently, tree grows peacefully, animal spends time peacefully, and all natural activities go on smoothly in this world. The poetic message the poet conveys though this stanza is to abide by the call of nature for the ecological order on this strife -stricken earth. All natural objects abide by the call of nature except the human beings who wish to establish their kingdom at the cost of natural disorder in this world. The poet murmurs melodiously :

“Sublime ,sedate and slow  
How silently on polished glaze  
Her ruminations flow  
Till, graceful as a proud one –master,  
Carved from down of alabaster,  
Pensively she clings  
To shallow depths of shadowed things  
Where willows bloom and blow.”5. (2001:26)

Love has remained one of the leading poetic qualities of the Romantic poets. To Keats Love was his religion and he wished to die for it. It is Love that sends the lovers in the seventh heaven. It is Love that is spiritual, divine and celestial. It is Love that moulds the disgrace into saving grace for its fragrance. Jackson’s heart lies in the tavern of love and thanks the superpower for this divine gift at heart and soul. The poet sings in this stanza :

“For all these gifts, these earthly joys,  
I thank the lord above;  
But treasured more than Time itself,  
Is God’s great Gift of Love.”6. (2001: 36).

Love has remained the most sublime gifts of the superpower for the human beings. All the poets have sung the song of love in full-throated ease. Like the romantic poets Jackson is an ardent lover of love and thanks god for this treasure-trove that lies inside the chest of Time. Loveless life is worse than curse because love is the fragrance of life.

Dream, imagination and vision are the leading poetic qualities of the romantic poets. The imagination seizes as beauty must be truth whether it existed before or not. It is the poetic dream, that makes the things lovely, beautiful and pleasant. It is the vision, the dream and the imagination that plants the seed of action and function for its florescence in the womb of time. Jackson has lost himself in the kingdom of vision and dream and finds in dream a day whenever gold is scattered here and there on this earth. The friendly relation, universalism, mutual understanding and social equality blossom irrespective of the race, religion or region they belong to. It is the result of the sweet dream that people become more energetic, more sensitive and more dutiful than they are in actual lives. In his dream he finds the scattered gold on every one. Jackson seems a romantic poet of this century who has inherited the romantic tradition of writings all through his poetic groves.

“My dreams still stray;  
And in a time where such a day  
Has scattered gold on everyone.”<sup>7</sup>(2001:6).

God made the country and man made the town. God made the earth and man made the kingdom. The soul of nature lies in rural landscape rather than urban landscape, man-made place to live in. The green meadow, hanging bows, fragrant flowers, chirping birds, playing animals, rusticity of girls, simplicity of lives, colorful gardens etc are the divine wealth of the rural landscape that go over the head of the urban inhabitants. The fresh air, mooing of the cows, barking of the dogs, gaming of the swans, jumping of the dolphins etc are the natural wealth of rural landscape that make them spiritually rich and materialistically poor. The poet sings in this stanza:

“No lowly task he undertook  
that showed no spark of genius;  
his hand upon the moment’s blade  
winged birds, carved trees,  
made vignettes loom; and,  
from that dream,  
with facets of stilled  
circumstance,  
immortalised a rustic world,  
combining skill of master-craft  
with sense of rural  
symmetry.”<sup>8</sup>(2001:28)

Like the romantic poets Jackson feels at ease while dealing with rural landscape and its natural grace that captivates the heart of many a literary suitor. The winged birds, carved trees, vignettes loom and many others elicit his painterly painting of rural landscape to make it ever fragrant, calm and sooth for all the living beings on this strife - stricken earth . The poet appreciates the winds , chirping birds , roaring clouds ,flowing rivers ,jungles , mountains , hills , lakes and surges ,green meadow and calm environment on the pattern of the romantic tradition of writing.

It is time that gives birth to a child, makes him young and ,lastly, devours in course of time. It is time that gives pleasure of the child's birth and also mourns over the death of the inmates. B.M.Jackson is a global English poet with six poetry collections to his credit. His romantic flavour has perfumed the literary world with novel vision and celestial thought.

**References:**

1. Jackson,B.M & Cranke, Annie, Wendy, Webb Books ,POBOX 210 , Taverham , Norwich,NR 86WX,
2. Ibid,p.36
3. Ibid,p.14
4. Ibid,p.32
5. Ibid,p.26
6. Ibid,p.36
7. Ibid,p.6
8. Ibid,p.28