

What's the central image of 'The Tyger'?

The central image of this piece is that of a tiger roaming steadily and silently in the dark forests of the night. It remains constant throughout the poem.

Is 'The Tyger' a modern poem?

This poem was published in 1794 and it rose to notoriety in the Romantic era. It is both a poem of the romantic age and modern age.

What type of poem is 'The Tyger' by William Blake?

It is a romantic poem that has a highly structured rhyme scheme and meter. Blake uses rhyming couplets and groups them into quatrains.

How does 'The Tyger' challenge common assumptions of the time about God and Christianity?

Blake's poem challenges the common assumptions of the contemporary period regarding God and Christianity. During that time, God was depicted as a kind and meek being who is benevolent to his creation. Blake challenged this conception and portrayed him as a being who has two sides. He is both the protector and the perisher.

What is "fearful symmetry" in 'The Tyger'?

This phrase refers to the symmetrical physical structure of a tiger. Its body is designed in a manner that presents it as a ferocious creature. From the eyes to the paws, it is a creature

born to feed on other creatures. The speaker is afraid by looking at this symmetry in the tiger.

The final allusion to the lamb can connote his reference to the poem, *'The Lamb,'* as he compares and contrasts the timid living animal to that of a tiger. God created the tiger as a dominant creature, while the lamb is simply a weakling compared to the tiger.

On the whole, *'The Tyger'* consists of unanswered questions, the poet leaves his readers pondering the will of the creator, his limitless power, and feeling awe towards God's creation. In conclusion, the poet ends his poem with perspectives of innocence and experience, both subjects of great interest to him.

Symbolism

This poem is full of symbols that are similar to the theme of his "Songs of Experience." Firstly, the tiger is a symbol of God's destructive side. It projects how God has balanced his creation by making a fierce creature like a tiger. It implicitly refers to another fact that he is both the perisher and the protector. Readers can find the symbols of experience in the following words, "night", "fire", "hammer", "chain", "furnace", "anvil", etc. The symbolic use of the words is consonant with the overall theme of Blake's poem. It sets the tone and mood of the work.

Historical Context

After publishing “Songs of Innocence,” “Songs of Experience” was published in 1794. The poet aimed to demonstrate the contrarian nature of the soul and human thought. The poem ‘*The Tyger*’ was published in his collection of poems known as Songs of Experience. It became an instant literary classic amongst all-time classic poems of the modern era.

“Songs of Experience” was written in opposition to “Songs of Innocence,” key components in Blake’s thought process, being a radical thinker of his time. ‘*The Tyger*’ was the pinnacle of heresy for William Blake, pitching humans bearing the onus for their actions.

‘*The Tyger*’ by William Blake consists of six stanzas, with each stanza consisting of four lines.

Alliteration is a common type of repetition that’s concerned with the use and reuse of the same consonant sounds at the beginning of words. For example, “burning bright” in line one and “frame and “fearful” in line 4 of the first stanza. This kind of repetition, in addition to the broader refrain that’s used in ‘*The Tyger*,’ helps create a memorable rhythm. Enjambment is a formal device that appears when the poet cuts off a line before its natural stopping point. For example, the transition between

lines one and two of the second stanza as well as lines three and four of the fourth