

A Study of certain aspect of Wordsworth's 1800 preface to the lyrical ballads

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Abstrak

Wordsworth supplied his Lyrical Ballads with several Advertisements and Prefaces, which were meant to serve as guides for the better understanding of his poems. In this Thesis I have chosen to consider the 1800 Preface, or the Preface to the Second Edition of the Lyrical Ballads, because it contains Wordsworth's theories upon the principles of Poetry. Wordsworth and Coleridge planned to compose a volume of Poetry which would be different in its subject matter and language from existing poems; it was to be free from conventional imagery and terminology. Coleridge's well known contribution to the Lyrical Ballads is the Ancient Mariner, which I shall not discuss in this Thesis. I have selected a few of Wordsworth's poems from the Lyrical Ballads to illustrate my study of certain aspects of the 1800 Preface. These poems are Michael, The Idiot, Boy, The Thorn, The Brothers, and Resolution and Independence. I have also taken some passages from The Prelude.