

Student History Individual Report

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Essay 1

School Name : Serrano
Student Full Name (UserId) : SHEA THOMPSON
Profile Name(ProfileId) : "The Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes (pilot)
Group Name : period 5 (6pt)
Teacher Name : Trina Mangione
Score : 6/ 6/ 6/ 5/ 5/ 5
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Essay Text:

"Back, he spurred like a madman, shouting a curse to the sky, With the white road smoking behind him and his rapier brandished high."

These words are from the poem The Highwayman, written by Alfred Noyes. This narrative poem takes place at night time in a spooky setting yet at the same time a perfect place for romance. Bess, a landlord's daughter is romanticizing with a highwayman. Jim the ostler loves Bess, but when he hears her conversation with the highwayman he wants to turn the highwayman in, for he wants the landlord's daughter to love him. The Highwayman holds many messages, but the most significant is the message of sacrificial love.

The first way that Alfred Noyes reveals his message is through sound devices. These include alliterations, onomatopoeia, and rhythm, all of which help bring the reader into the setting and story. One alliteration was "the moon was a ghostly galleon". In this alliteration, it puts more detail into the setting of romance and darkness, while also attracting the reader to remember the certain description. In a different alliteration Alfred Noyes tells of the romantic setting of the story. He tells that "the road was a ribbon of moonlight". Another sound device, onomatopoeia is used to tell how difficult it is for Bess and the highwayman is to romance. For instance, the highwayman "clattered and clashed in the dark inn yard." The last sound device used to tell the authors message is rhythm. He used rhythm so that the reader can feel suspense while the highwayman is retrieving back to his lover. The reader can hear the "tlot-tlot" of the galloping horse. Alfred Noyes used many sound devices in his narrative

poem to describe the setting and bring suspense.

The next device that Alfred Noyes uses to describe his message is visual devices. He uses these to explain the romantic setting and the dark setting. The author uses the color red to show love. One example is when the landlord's daughter is "plaiting a dark red love knot into her long black hair.". This offers a romantic connection between the highwayman and Bess. Another example of the use of red is as death. Since the message is sacrificial love, red is used as blood to represent death, while also representing love. Black is also used in The Highwayman. It represents death and horrible people. For instance, Jim, who is in love with Bess, has eyes like "hollows of madness". His eyes reflect what his personality is like. It also reflects his love for Bess. He is not really in love with Bess, or at least not like the highwayman is. Visual devices are used often in the story to show death and love to represent sacrificial love.

Similes and metaphors are used to compare things. A simile is a comparison of two things that are very unlikely to be compared. One simile describes Tim's appearance, telling that his hair was "like moldy hay". A simile is also used to tell what Bess' face looked like. "Her face was like a light!", the author said. Metaphors are also used in The Highwayman. A metaphor compares to unlikely subjects, but does so in a telling way, not using like, as, or resembles. One metaphor describes the setting as a "torrent of darkness". This is used to tell the dark side of the story. "Under the jeweled sky" is used to tell of the peaceful setting in The Highwayman. Metaphors and similes help share the message that love brings sacrifice.

The Highwayman carries a strong message that should be heard by everyone of all ages. Sacrificial love is told through the setting. Visual and sound devices help tell of the challenge it is for Bess' and the highwayman to love one another. Similes and metaphors help compare characters to other characters and objects. The overall message of The Highwayman was told well.