



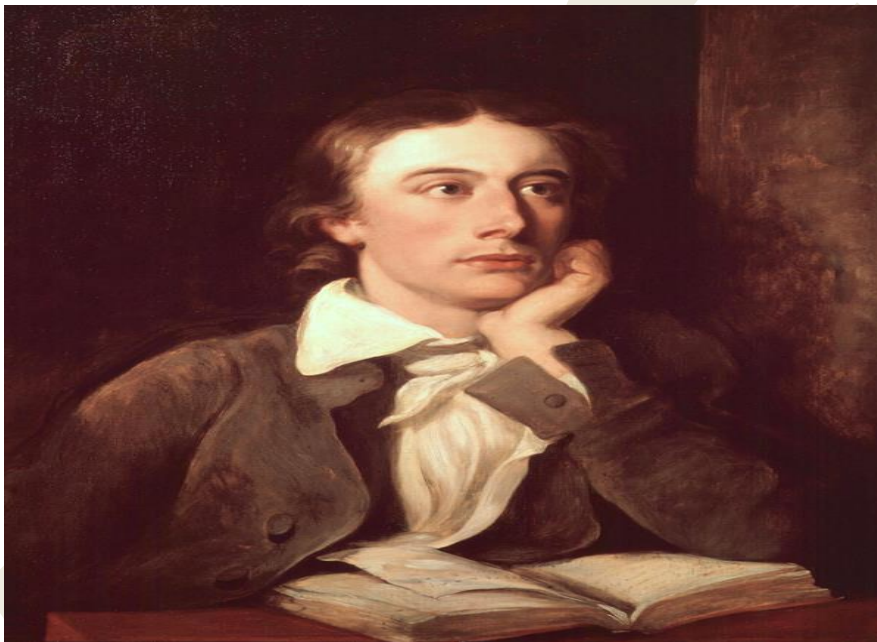
Unit-4

Poem

A Thing of Beauty

About the Poet:

The poem "A thing of beauty" has been written by the famous poet John Keats. John Keats was born in 1795. He was a famous English poet who wrote poems mainly in the romance genre. He published his works at a tender age of 21. His works were in publication only for four years when he lived – he passed on at a young age of 25 (year 1821) due to tuberculosis disease. During his lifetime, his works received criticism; his works were later appreciated by the end of the 19th century. Keats used passionate emotions in his poem and the poetic device "imagery" extensively in his poetry. His famous works include "Ode to a Nightingale", "Sleep and Poetry", and the famous sonnet "On First Looking into Chapman's Homer", and "Endymion".



Glossary:

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| 1. Nothingness | - | the absence or cessation of life or existence |
| 2. Bower | - | a pleasant shady place under trees |
| 3. Morrow | - | the following day |
| 4. Wreathing | - | form a circular band of flowers |
| 5. Spite | - | poetic form of "in spite", a desire to hurt someone. |
| 6. Despondence- | | low spirits from loss of hope or courage |
| 7. Inhuman | - | lacking human qualities of compassion and mercy |
| 8. Dearth | - | a scarcity or lack of something |
| 9. Gloomy | - | dark or poorly lit |
| 10. Pall | - | a cloth spread over a coffin, a dark cloud of smoke, dust. |
| 11. Daffodils | - | a yellow, bell-shaped spring flower with a long stem |
| 12. Rills | - | small streams |
| 13. Covert | - | not openly acknowledged or displayed |



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|---------------|---|--|
| 14. Musk-rose | - | (of the Mediterranean region) white flowers having a musky odour |
| 15. Grandeur | - | splendour and impressiveness |
| 16. Dooms | - | destruction, death or any unavoidable situation |
| 17. Immortal | - | living forever |
| 18. Brink | - | the extreme edge of land before a steep slope or a body of water |

Summary of the Poem:

A Thing of Beauty is by the famous poet John Keats. Furthermore, the poet says that a beautiful thing can give us extreme happiness and delight. Moreover, a beautiful thing is eternal that never declines or fades. Also, a beautiful thing resembles a shady shelter which gives us a comfortable sleep comprising of sweet dreams and relaxation. This will ultimately lead to good health.

The author says that individuals have an attachment to the Earthly things. This attachment is such that it has the resemblance of a flowery wreath. Furthermore, there are traps that keep people connected to materialistic things. This connection with materialistic things distracts humans from eternal happiness. This is because the focus of such materialistic people will be on acquiring more and more resources rather than on attaining eternal happiness. The world has a lot of negativity, hatred, and greed. According to the poet, the cause of gloom and sadness is this negativity. Moreover, one can fade away these negative vibes away with the help of beautiful things that surround us. This is because these beautiful things bring nothing but positivity.

The poet informs us about some beautiful things that are all around us. Beauty is certainly in the eyes of the one who beholds. This means one can see the beauty in anything. Furthermore, the poet talks about the numerous creations of God which we should admire. One such creation is the Sun which provides energy. Moreover, the poet also talks about the beauty of the moon and the natural beauty of the trees.

There are various animals around that make our world lively. The pretty flowers like daffodils enhance the liveliness and greenery of the world. Moreover, the flowing streams of water provide refreshment and cooling effect to us in the hot summer season. The forests have plenty of pretty musks and rose flowers. Such flowers are a beautiful sight and eyes feel the delight due to them. All such things certainly are things of beauty. Also, one must not forget the beautiful and inspiring stories of the brave soldiers. These brave soldiers risked and sacrificed their lives in order to protect others.

These beautiful things have a resemblance to the fountain of immortality bestowed upon us by God as a gift and a blessing. Such beautiful things are an inspiration for all of us to continue living. They make life worth living. Also, they also help us in maintaining our faith in goodness. Life without these beautiful things would certainly become very hard.

A Thing of Beauty summary tells us the value of beautiful things that are all around us and that one must cherish them.