

## Romantic Elements and W B Yeats

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### ABSTRACT

Romantic elements, basically found in the poems of the Romantic poets in the Ninetieth Century, are not the sole property of the poets of that time rather a unique inspiration for innumerable poets of the world beyond this time frame in England and other countries. The poets in Romantic Period (1798-1832) and before and after this period usually treated the following elements as ingredients of romanticism. These elements are-*love of Nature, high imagination, emotion, individualism, supernaturalism, mysticism, escapism, beauty, interest in remoteness, weakness to Greek mythology, objectivity, primitivism or spontaneity, simplicity in expression, revolutionary zeal, reformation, spirituality, melancholy, medievalism and the past, , childhood-innocence and adulthood, the common man, freedom and revolution, transience, exoticism, and the poet as prophet*. The romantic poets- William Wordsworth, S T Coleridge, William Blake, Percy Bysshe Shelley, Lord Byron and John Keats, mostly used the above mentioned elements in their poems. But before them, Edmund Spenser, Christopher Marlowe, William Shakespeare and other poets applied them in their poems as basic elements. They were not out of Romanticism. Actually, Romanticism is a doctrine that is free from the rigid literary rules of the Classical and Neoclassical period. The influence of romanticism dwindled in Victorian period and after this period, we get Modern period. The poets of the Modern period are by nature anti romantic –but W B Yeats (1865-1939), the national poet of Ireland and one of the influential poets of Modern period was strongly moved by the romantic influence and wrote many of his poems following romantic trend. That's why W B Yeats is called the last romantic poet in English Literature. The subject matter of this study is "Romantic elements and W B Yeats". For this study, I have selected nine poems by W. B. Yeats—namely, "The Lake Isle of Innisfree," "No Second Troy," "Sailing to Byzantium," "A Prayer for My Daughter," "The Second Coming," "The White Birds," "When You Are Old," "Leda and the Swan," and "The Wild Swans at Coole"—to explore the romantic elements present in them and examine their use and significance.

**Keywords:** romantic elements, inspiration, escapism, mysticism, reformation, mythology, W B Yeats

### INTRODUCTION

Romantic period started in 1798 and ended in 1832/50. The Romantic Movement was a new trend in poetry and it introduced an innovative type of poetry in world literature. Romanticism is opposite to Classicism and Neoclassicism. According to Dr, Mofizar Rahman- "*Romanticism is a doctrine which holds that art and literature should be free from Classical and Neoclassical rules and constraints.*" The influence of Romantic Movement was very strong and it did not remain confined only in England; instead, it spread in other European countries with the mighty revolutionary zeal of French Revolution. Goethe, Schiller, Novalis from Germany, Victor Hugo, Lamartine from France, Leopardi from Italy, Pushkin from Russia and Mickiewicz from Poland contributed a lot to romantic poetry. After the accession of Queen Victoria to the throne of England in 1837, the literary trend of romantic poetry changed its direction and there started the Victorian literary trend. Lord Alfred Tennyson, Robert Browning, Matthew Arnold, Christina Rossetti, Elizabeth Barrett Browning and others wrote poems and Charles Dickens, Charlotte Bronte, Emily Bronte, Anne Bronte, Thomas Hardy, William Makepeace Thackeray, George Eliot and others contributed to novel writing. After Victorian period (1837-1901), we got introduced with the modern literature with different genres of writings. Joseph Conrad , W. B. Yeats, Robert Frost , E. M. Forster, James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, George Bernard Shaw, Franz Kafka, Ezra Pound. D. H. Lawrence, T. S. Eliot, Aldous Huxley, Ernest Hemingway, Langston Hughes, George Orwell, Samuel Beckett, W. H. Auden, Dylan Thomas, Doris Lessing, Ted Hughes, Sylvia

Plath, Seamus Heaney and many more writers have enriched modern literature. Modernism is a new doctrine of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Modern period. According to Malcolm Bradbury and James McFarlane **“Modernism is a term which is applied to the writing of the early twentieth century.”** {(A Guide to European Literature 1890–1930, (1976)}. Most of these writers are anti-romantic in nature-but W B Yeats, one of the famous Nobel laureate writers, has shown his inclination to Romanticism along with Modernism. His renowned poems—“The Lake Isle of Innisfree,” “No Second Troy,” “Sailing to Byzantium,” “A Prayer for My Daughter,” “The Second Coming,” “The White Birds,” “When You Are Old,” “Leda and the Swan,” and “The Wild Swans at Coole”—exhibit various romantic elements and have therefore been selected for this study to explore the use of romantic elements alongside modern poetic elements.

### Research Questions

This research faces some questions while dealing with the subject matter “Romantic elements and W B Yeats”. The research questions of this study are as follows-

- a) What Romantic elements are used by W B Yeats in the poems- -“The Lake Isle of Innisfree”, “No Second Troy”, “Sailing to Byzantium”, “A Prayer for My Daughter”,  
  
“The Second Coming”, “The White Birds”, “When You Are Old”, “Leda and The Swan” and “The Wild Swans at Coole”?
- b) How does Yeats combine Romantic features with Modern techniques in the above mentioned poems?
- c) In what extent, do Romantic elements contribute to the themes, imagery, and poetic diction of Yeats's poetry?

### Research Objectives

- i) This study aims to explore different romantic elements in the poems- “The Lake

*Isle of Innisfree”, “No Second Troy”, “Sailing to Byzantium”, “A Prayer for My Daughter”, “The Second Coming”, “The White Birds”, “When You Are Old”, “Leda and The Swan” and “The Wild Swans at Coole”.*

- ii) This research work is directed to analyze the applications of romantic elements as modern technique in the above stated poems.

- iii) It also examines how Romantic elements contribute to the themes, imagery, and poetic diction of Yeats's poetry.

## LITERATURE REVIEW



**W B Yeats**

W B Yeats (1865-1939) is one of the most famous poets of English literature. He has written a lot of poems and many of them are written in romantic trend. W B Yeats in his “Coole Park and Ballylee,” in 1931, tells-

“*We were the last romantics*” and critic Graham Hough also introduces Yeats as *Last Romantic poet*. That’s why W B Yeats is called the last romantic poet of English literature. Yeats was greatly influenced by Easter Rising and French Revolution. He is a poet of Celtic Revival and the Nature of Ireland occupies special place in his poems. As a modern poet, he possesses most of the characteristic features of modernism, but he also retains several elements of Romanticism in his poetry. Thus, the Romantic elements that influenced Yeats were transformed into a modern poetic diction through which he expressed his love of nature, imagination, escapism, mythological consciousness, fascination with the past, mysticism, subjectivity, belief in the supernatural, zeal for freedom and revolution, love for humanity, and the like. If we go through the poems “*The Lake Isle of Innisfree*”, “*No Second Troy*”, “*Sailing to Byzantium*”, “*A Prayer for My Daughter*”, “*The Second Coming*”, “*The White Birds*”, “*When You Are Old*”, “*Leda and The Swan*” and “*The Wild Swans at Coole*”, Yeats’ uses of Romantic elements in these poems will be clear to us.

### Romantic Elements in the Poem “The Lake Isle of Innisfree”

“*The Lake Isle of Innisfree*” is one of the best romantic poems of W B Yeats. This poem is a pure presentation of romantic spirit. It was **first published** in *The National Observer*, a British weekly magazine in **1890** and in 1893, it was published with many of his poems under the title ‘*The Rose*’. In this poem, the poet has expressed his nostalgia or home sickness for his childhood place Sligo. Innisfree is a small, uninhabited island in Lough Gill, in County Sligo. The poet becomes spiritually exhausted with modern boring life style in London and wants to have peace. At that time, this lake Isle of Innisfree, calls him for refreshment. The poet responds to the spiritual call of this Island and writes this poem. This poem is replete with romantic and modern poetic elements. In the first four lines of this poem, the poet tells-



#### *Lake Isle of Innisfree*

“*I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,  
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made;  
Nine bean rows will I have there, a hive for the honey-bee,  
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.*” (Lines-01-04)

Here the romantic elements ‘*escapism, homesickness, love of nature and remoteness, mysticism, individualism, high imagination and sense of hearing*’ are introduced subtly. The poet wants to escape from the bustle of London city life and go to Innisfree to stay in a small cabin made of natural objects -*clay and wattles*. Romantic elements ‘*escapism and love of Nature*’ are introduced here. ‘*Nine*’ in third line, is a mysterious number and the poet uses this number to indicate the use of mysticism- as romantic element. *A hive* can only be made by the *bees*. It is part of nature and the poet wants to be alone, secluded, far from the city life (individualism) to stay in a *bee-loud glade*, a beautiful place that can be felt through ‘*high imagination*’. In the next four lines, the poet has given the exquisite nature description to express his love of nature. Here he mentions the presence of peace that comes slowly as a personified thing and the beauty of the morning is described with foggy weather and songs of cricket. The poet also uses the references to the romantic elements- *moon, sun and the flapping sound of the bird- linnet*. These are all absolutely heavenly and can only be found in Utopia, the realm of imagination. The poet tells-

*“And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,  
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings,  
There midnight’s all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,  
And evening full of the linnet’s wings.” (Lines-05-08)*

In the last four lines, the poet again uses *individuality, spirituality, emotion, love of nature, sensuousness, together with escapism, and imagination* as romantic elements. Yeats, a modern poet, simultaneously romantic, has also used the following modern elements, like-*fragmentation, individualism, isolation, anxiety, alienation, mysticism, spiritual crisis, disillusionment, and ambiguity*, through his explicit urging and implicit dreaming, visiting and enjoying the scenes. The poet reveals his mind in the following way-

*“I will arise and go now, for always night and day  
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;  
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavement grey,  
I hear it in the deep heart’s core.” (Lines-09-12)*

### Romantic Elements in “No Second Troy”

“No Second Troy”, published in 1910 in ‘*The Green Helmet and Other Poems*’, is another beautiful romantic-modern poem of W B Yeats. This poem contains only twelve lines and here the poet has used various modern poetic traits as romantic elements to describe the beauty and destructive beauty effect of his beloved Maud Gonne. The poet uses hyperbolic and paragonic idealization of his beloved’s (Maud Gonne) beauty. His *intense personal emotion, heroic-mythical and classical allusion, high imagination and idealism* all- as romantic elements are reflected in this poem. Maud Gonne’s beauty is synonymous to the beauty of Helen -for whom the Troy faced destruction. In the last seven lines, the poet again uses romantic elements in guise of *hyperbolic idealization, comparison, personal emotion, mythological reference* to Helen and Troy. The poet tells-

*“What could have made her peaceful with a mind  
That nobleness made simple as a fire,  
With beauty like a tightened bow, a kind  
That is not natural in all age like this.  
Why, what could she have done, being what she is?  
Was there another Troy for her to burn?” (Lines-06-12)*

In this poem, W B Yeats also uses the modern poetic elements -*symbolism* – (Helen for Maud Gonne, Troy for modern city), *myth and allusion of Helen and Troy, reference to ancient time with modern chronological time*, etc. as romantic elements.

### Romantic Elements in-“Sailing to Byzantium”

“Sailing to Byzantium” presents a remarkable fusion of the Renaissance spirit, Romantic zeal, and modern poetic diction. In this poem, the poet has used - *high imagination, beauty, transcendence, adventure, love of nature, cycle of life, individuality, spiritual and imaginative self, mysticism, escapism, and ideal beauty of art* as the romantic elements. In the first six lines, the poet highlights the ‘*love of nature and cycle of life*’. These are the most used romantic elements by the romantic poets. In line number 5-6, the poet nicely mentions *the cycle of life, the natural cycle of birth, growth, and death* as romantic elements though they are modern poetic elements. He tells-

*“Fish, flesh, or fowl, commend all summer long  
Whatever is begotten, born, and dies.”*

In line number 7-8, Yeats expresses his lamentation and demands reformation and radical change in Irish/English society. These are modern elements but here used as romantic elements by the poet. The poet tells-

*“Caught in the sensual music all neglect  
Monuments of unageing intellect.”*

In line number 9-12, (first four lines of stanza II,) the poet used the romantic elements- ‘individuality’ and ‘high imagination’. His individual experience of old age and the condition of the aged man in Ireland (scare crow) are reflected in these lines. The poet narrates-

*“An aged man is but a paltry thing,  
A tattered coat upon a stick, unless  
Soul clap its hands and sing, and louder sing  
For every tatter in its mortal dress,”*

In stanza-III, *mysticism, spirituality, emotion, escapism and ideal beauty of art* are again applied as romantic elements. The poet mentions-God’s holy fire as a symbol of spiritual beauty. He beseeches the wise, spiritual beings to make him holy and pure through purgation. He urges the mystic and spiritual agents to consume his corrupted Irish soul and requests them to fasten it to a dying animal. In line number 5-8 of stanza III, the poet expresses his intense emotion to bring transition of his soul into spiritual quality and thus he wants to be immortal like eternal product of art. Yeats tells-

*“Consume my heart away; sick with desire,  
And fastened to a dying animal  
It knows not what it is; and gather me  
Into the artifice of eternity.”*

In the last stanza, the poet uses his idea of transmigration, transformation, transience and love for ideal beauty of art. These are often used as modern poetic elements but Yeats has used them as romantic elements.

### **“A Prayer for My Daughter” and Romantic Elements**

“A Prayer for My Daughter” is one of the best personal poems of W B Yeats. This poem was written in 1919 after the birth of his daughter Annie Butler Yeats. In this poem, the poet has used many modern poetic ingredients and romantic elements simultaneously. The title of this poem “A Prayer for My Daughter” declares that it is about the prayer for the poet’s daughter. This is subjectivity. Except it, the poet has also used his personal pronoun ‘I’ in the first line of the second stanza. *The Gregory’s wood, bare hill, haystack, the roof leveling wind, Atlantic Ocean*, all are objects of nature and they are romantic elements. In lines-5 to 8 of the second stanza, the poet uses strong imagination to depict the fearful condition of the post war period. Here, the storm and war are used as synonymous objects and the poet can imagine the excited reverie of the future years. The *disillusionment and the poet’s sense of anxiety and uncertainty* are highlighted here as modern elements. The modern poets, after the First World War, treated these modern elements in their poems; but Yeats has used them as romantic elements in this poem. He tells-

*“Imagining in excited reverie  
That the future years had come,  
Dancing to a frenzied drum,  
Out of the murderous innocence of the sea.”*

In line number 7, 8 of first stanza, and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd lines of second stanza, the poet has again expressed his *strong personal emotion, anxiety, and disillusionment* as romantic elements in the following way-

*“And for an hour I have walked and prayed  
Because of the great gloom that is in my mind.  
I have walked and prayed for this young child an hour  
And heard the sea-wind scream upon the tower.”(Lines-07-10)*

In fourth stanza, the poet has used the references to the Greek mythology like other romantic poets-John Keats, P B Shelley and Lord Byron. In the first five lines of this stanza, the poet has given the references to legendary Helen and Paris, mythological Olympian goddess- Aphrodite, and god Hephaestus. The poet narrates-

*“Helen being chosen found life flat and dull  
And later had much trouble from a fool,  
While that great Queen that rose out of spray  
Being fatherless could have her way  
Yet chose a bandy-legged smith for man,”*

Yeats, like romantic poet- William Blake, has used many symbols in his poems. Symbols are regularly used in all types of modern and romantic poems. They are integral parts of modern poetry. In 5<sup>th</sup> stanza, ‘the fool’-is Yeats himself, ‘glad kindness’ stands for courtesy, ‘flourishing hidden tree’ for resourceful courteous person, ‘linnet’ for gentle and politeness, ‘green laurel’ for evergreen happiness, ‘assault and battery’ for wound and negative power of practical life, ‘ceremony and custom’ stand for tradition and traditional life style, are all symbols and modern elements in romantic appearance. Yeats’ such type of poetic diction has made him unique among the modern poets.

### Romantic Elements in “The Second Coming”

“The Second Coming” is a great modern poem that acclaims its importance next to ‘The Waste Land’ of T S Eliot. Yeats has used here ‘mysticism, supernaturalism, imagination, vision, symbolism, emotion, myth and prophecy’ as romantic elements. The poet’s use of ‘widening gyre’ ‘falcon’ ‘falconer’ ‘ceremony of innocence’, ‘the best’, ‘the worst’ ‘Spiritus Mundi’, ‘revelation’, ‘the Second Coming’, and ‘Bethlehem’ are all symbolic, and modern poetic elements; but the poet has used them simultaneously as romantic elements.

### Romantic elements in-“The White Birds”

“The White Birds”, one of the early lyric love poems of Yeats, contains many romantic elements. ‘Love of nature’, ‘love and Idealism’, ‘escapism’, ‘high imagination’, ‘emotion over reason’, and ‘symbolism’ are used in this poem as romantic elements. Here the speaker’s illusion, individuality, uncertainty, anxiety and probability are modern elements. These modern and above mentioned romantic elements are presented together by the poet here to compose a nice modern-romantic poem. The very opening four lines of this poem is highly imaginative. Here the lover (speaker) tells his beloved- the following heart rending speech of love.

*“I would that we were, my beloved, white birds on the foam of the sea!  
We tire of the flame of the meteor, before it can fade and flee;  
And the flame of the blue star of twilight, hung low on the rim of the sky,  
Has awaked in our hearts, my beloved, a sadness that may not die.” (Lines-01-04)*

The description of Nature in this poem is beyond expression. In the next lines, the poet is unparalleled in his depiction of the beauty of Nature. The speaker along with his beloved here wants to become white birds of the sea to enjoy love and company and this type of narration is only possible by a romantic, fervent, love sick lover. The speaker wishes that they would visit such joyous places that will be free from all types of earthly sorrows, sufferings and their escapism will ensure them evergreen and heavenly joys. The poet speaker- in line number 9-10 tells his beloved-

*“I am haunted by numberless islands, and many a Danaan shore,  
Where Time would surely forget us, and Sorrow come near us no more;”*

The last two lines are more romantic and appealing. The speaker narrates the imaginary activities of them to the beloved and here Nature as a benign mother would give them shelter. The speaker tells-

*“Soon far from the rose and the lily and fret of the flames would we be,*

*Were we only white birds, my beloved, buoyed out on the foam of the sea!"*

### Romantic Elements in "When You Are Old"

"When You are Old" is an exquisite love poem that conquers the time limit. Here the speaker is perhaps Yeats himself and the beloved is his lifelong cherished idol Maud Gonne. The speaker here could not marry his beloved but he is in illusion and fragmented mind. *Symbolism of different elements, use of metaphor, alienation and isolation and juxtaposition of different themes* are used here by the poet. The *mountains, crowd of stars, the beloved's future grey hair, passionless body, pilgrim soul, love, regret, melancholy, nostalgia* etc. are romantic elements. In this respect, "When You are Old" is a romantic poem with modern poetic elements.

### Romantic Elements in "Leda and the Swan"



*Leda and the Swan*

"Leda and the Swan" is one of the finest poems of W B Yeats. Here the poet has given emphasis on the Greek mythology particularly the myth behind the birth of Helen, her parents, destruction of Troy and the death of Greek mighty commander Agamemnon. The mythological character *Leda* was married to *Tyndareus*, the king of Sparta. One day *Leda* went to take bath in the river **Eurotas** situated in the **Laconia** region of the **Peloponnese** in southern Greece. Zeus watching her extraordinary beauty, got amorous and came to Leda in form of a swan and held her to seduce. He became successful and as a result Leda conceived and begot Helen, the most beautiful woman of the world. Helen was later abducted by Paris and this issue caused a long ten years war between the Greek and the Trojans. At last the Troy city got burnt and destroyed. The Greek commander along with innumerable Trojans and Greeks also died. Yeats has narrated this myth in this poem and he has also used different romantic elements like- *supernaturalism, mysticism, love of nature, and strong passion* while describing it. The modern elements-*myth, sex, abduction, war, birth and death* are used here as romantic elements.

### Romantic Elements in "The Wild Swans at Coole"

"The Wild Swans at Coole", written in 1916 and first published in 1917 with 29 poems, is a pure romantic poem with many of the romantic elements. It has five stanzas and each of these stanzas is rich in nature description. The poet gives the description of the beautiful *fifty nine swans of the Coole Park*. *The trees, sky, woodland paths, October night's beauty, water of the Coole park lake, passage of time, second time counting of the wild swans, sounds of the swans' wings, flying in a ring shape, mystic youthfulness of the swans, love and passion of the swans, mysticism of unageing beauty of the Fifty nine swans, the still mirror like water*, etc. are the elements of romanticism in this poem. The poet started this poem with the following beautiful lines-

*"The trees are in their autumn beauty,  
The woodland paths are dry,  
Under the October twilight the water  
Mirrors a still sky;" (lines-01-04)*

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study ensures a qualitative and analytical approach to identify the romantic elements, their uses, the fusion of romantic and modern elements as poetic diction in nine selected poems of W B Yeats- namely “*The Lake Isle of Innisfree*”, “*No Second Troy*”, “*Sailing to Byzantium*”, “*A Prayer for My Daughter*”, “*The Second Coming*”, “*The White Birds*”, “*When You Are Old*”, “*Leda and The Swan*” and “*The Wild Swans at Coole*”. The methodology is designed to investigate the application of romantic elements in these modern poems of W B Yeats. This literary framework also focuses on textual and critical analysis of the above mentioned poems and some scholarly books and articles from international journals.

### Research Design

This study follows a descriptive- analytical design with a view to examining and sorting the romantic elements in the above mentioned poems as primary texts. This research investigates W. B. Yeats’s use of Romantic elements, their narrative functions and symbolic significance, and the poetic diction employed in each of the nine selected poems. Secondary critical works and scholarly articles are also consulted as literary- support to contextualize the analysis.

### Primary Sources

W B Yeats’ famous poems- “*The Lake Isle of Innisfree*”, “*No Second Troy*”, “*Sailing to Byzantium*”, “*A Prayer for My Daughter*”, “*The Second Coming*”, “*The White Birds*”, “*When You Are Old*”, “*Leda and The Swan*” and “*The Wild Swans at Coole*”, are scrupulously and cautiously read and analyzed to scrutinize the use of romantic elements to complete this study.

### Secondary Sources

Relevant literary criticism and journal articles, including **Mushtaq Ahmed Kadhim Aldewan’s** “*The Romantic Elements in W. B. Yeats’s Poetry*,” **Azime Pekşen Yakar’s** “*The Oscillation Between Romanticism and Modernism in William Butler Yeats’s Poems*,” **Bipin Bihari Dash’s** “*Symbolism in W. B. Yeats’s Poetry: A Critical Study*,” **Rosemary Therese Hoiton’s** “*A Study of Romanticism in the Lyric Poetry of William Butler Yeats*,” **Armstrong’s** “*Romanticism and Aestheticism*,” **Jin Yong Woo’s** “*The Romantic Tradition and W. B. Yeats’s Early Poetry*,” **George Bornstein’s** “*Yeats and Romanticism*,” and **James Beresford Scott’s** “*FORD MADDOX FORD’S ROLE IN THE ROMANTICIZING OF THE BRITISH NOVEL*”, have been carefully studied and consulted to develop a clear understanding of the explicit and implicit manifestations of Romantic elements in the selected poems of W. B. Yeats. The study also draws upon **Émile Legouis’s** *A Short History of English Literature*, **William Wordsworth’s** “*Preface to Lyrical Ballads*,” and other significant works of literary criticism to establish an appropriate critical framework for the analysis

### Analytical Framework

This analysis mainly focuses on W B Yeats’ use of romantic elements in the poems-- “*The Lake Isle of Innisfree*”, “*No Second Troy*”, “*Sailing to Byzantium*”, “*A Prayer for My Daughter*”, “*The Second Coming*”, “*The White Birds*”, “*When You Are Old*”, “*Leda and The Swan*” and “*The Wild Swans at Coole*”. Yeats is a poet of versatile genius and his poetry becomes gradually complex and philosophical with his maturity. While exploring the uses of Romantic elements in his poems, special care is given because these elements are simultaneously romantic and modern. His above selected all poems are not of same vein or merit; they are different in many aspects. So, to evaluate his highly philosophical poems with romantic elements, proper attention and concentration have to be confirmed.

### Procedure

Close reading and analysis of the poems-- “*The Lake Isle of Innisfree*”, “*No Second Troy*”, “*Sailing to Byzantium*”, “*A Prayer for My Daughter*”, “*The Second Coming*”, “*The White Birds*”, “*When You Are Old*”, “*Leda and The Swan*” and “*The Wild Swans at Coole*”, have been done to identify and catalog instances of

romantic elements -e.g. -love of Nature, high imagination, emotion, individualism, supernaturalism, mysticism, escapism, beauty, interest in remoteness, weakness to Greek mythology, objectivity, primitivism or spontaneity, simplicity in expression, revolutionary zeal, reformation, spirituality, melancholy, medievalism and the past, , childhood-innocence and adulthood, the common man, freedom and revolution, transience, exoticism, and the poet as prophet, in them. Thematic analysis, narrative structure, poetic diction, fusion of modern and romantic elements, direct and indirect references to Romantic elements, all are meticulously observed to complete this research procedure.

## CONCLUSION

W B Yeats is a very popular modern-romantic poet in world literature. As an Irish poet, he had weakness for his country's freedom. He is a poet of versatile genius and being an early modernist, he was greatly influenced by the Romantic poets of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. W B Yeats is included among the Romantics by James Beresford Scott in his renowned article- "FORD MADDOX FORD'S ROLE IN THE ROMANTICIZING OF THE BRITISH NOVEL" page-11. He was also an influential leader of Celtic Revival. His early poems are basically rich in romantic elements and they are full of high imagination and love. About Yeats, Emile Legouis (1861-1937), a **French scholar, literary historian, translator, and professor of English literature**, tells- "*Yeats's youthful poems have an airy grace; they deal with imaginative, ideal love and are written in a smooth, simple manner which contrasts strangely with the vaporous subtlety of the matter, As he progressed he became more intellectual; his poetry has proved more masculine but a little of its first charm has vanished.*" There is no doubt that W B Yeats is a celebrated modern poet; his use of romantic elements in his poems is not a mere mistake or a whim; rather a tendency to adorn his poetry to innovative style and form with the powerful influence of modernism. So, Yeats' ample use of romantic elements in his poems has undoubtedly enhanced the grandeur of his modern poetic style and diction. But, it does not mean that W B Yeats is a pure romantic poet. We better tag him as the last romantic poet in modern era. In this respect, it can be said that Romantic elements and W B Yeats are co-related and his above mentioned poems are the best examples of romantic poems.

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