

# Daffodils

Wordsworth's most famous poem, published in 1807, but not part of the "Lyricall ballads"

It about a beautiful natural landscape →daffodils are near a lake and describes it poetically

The verbs of the first 3 stanzas are in the past, while the last one is in the present →he remembers the experience in tranquillity

Poetry is a natural overflow of feelings, that happens after the experience is finished. The author remembers his encounter with the flowers as he sits on a couch

He had a sister (Dorothy) who was a best friend and a secretary →she also wrote journal about his relationship with Wordsworth

In the journal it is written that the two went on a walk and saw the field of daffodils →in 1803, 4 years after

Time passes, and he writes about nature afterwards, in a state of tranquillity →he has to feel an emotion similar to the one he felt = 2 conditions to write about the experience

## Stanza 1

I →subjectivity of romantic poetry

Line 1 →simile

Line 3/4 →there is a personification →daffodils are described as people (a crowd, a host)

Line 3 →assonance in O, line 4 still in O

Line 5 →alliteration in B

Line 6 →again personification, because the daffodils dance

The verb tenses are past tenses

The description is of a picturesque nature (not sublime in this case)

## Stanza 2

Simile →"continuous as"

Line 2 →consonance in K

Line 5 →hyperbole (tenthousand flowers, exaggeration) and alliteration in T

Line 6 →personification of dancing flowers and consonance

### Stanza 3

Personification of the waves of the lake →they dance

Diacopy of "gaze" →to look fixatilly

At the same time he was unaware of the powerful feelings he was experiencing

### Stanza 4

Inward eye = imagination

Solitude = situation of tranquillity

Last line →consonance in D and in A

The sensation produces the emotions, which are than stored in the poet's memory, a similar emotion reproduces these emotions and can than write

He wrote "Lyrical ballads", "Daffodills", "The prelude" (long meditative poem) →here he reflects on his own life and his relationship with nature

It was published before his death →he worked on it all his life

What is nature to ww? →it is explained in the "Prelude". It is a source of beauty, consolation, literary inspiration and an educator

WW claims to have been educated by nature throughout his life

In the "Prelude" he tells about an event which occured when he was 8 years →he had just stolen a little boat (a mischievious action)

He was sainling, but then he saw that a mountain was following him →for this reason he decide to bring the boat back →example of sublime nature

He felt like he was been educated by the mountain

WW wrote 7 poems of the "Lyrical ballads" →but 5 of them are called the "Lucy poems" →"We are seven" is not part of the "Lucy poems"

The Lucy poems are about lucy, who has died young after living a pure life at contact with nature →she was pure and innocent

Her presence can still be perceived in the countryside area, where she lived

Jamaica Kincaid wrote a novel "Lucy", published in 1990 →the author is from the west indies (carabbbeans) →but she writes in english, because she was born in an english colony

She mentions Wordsworth →but the settlement is contemporary

Lucy here is an 19y ou pair girl, who decides to migrate to USA

It is a post-colonial novel →2 requirments:

- it has to be written by a writer coming from a previous colony of an european country (there are also of france, germany, ...)

- it explores the relationship between colonizers and colonized people