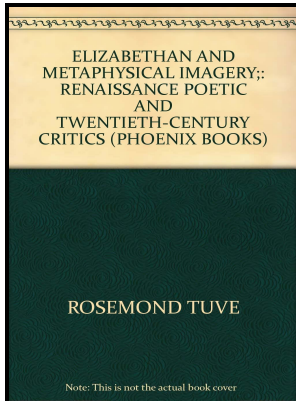


Elizabethan and metaphysical imagery - Renaissance, poetic and twentieth-century critics.

- - Moby



Description: -

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Melville coined words, critic recognizes, as if the English vocabulary were too limited for the complex things he had to express. Nathaniel Hawthorne and his family had moved to a small red farmhouse near , at the end of March 1850. Melville drew on his experience as a common sailor from 1841 to 1844, including several years on whalers, and on wide reading in whaling literature.

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Every now and then, the Pequod lowers for whales with success. Ahab then realizes that the destroyed ship is the hearse made of American wood in Fedallah's prophecy. He claims the doubloon for himself, and orders all boats to lower except for Starbuck's.

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These chapters start with the ancient history of whaling and a bibliographical classification of whales, getting closer with second-hand stories of the evil of whales in general and of Moby Dick in particular, a chronologically ordered commentary on pictures of whales. Cooled spermaceti congeals and must be squeezed back into liquid state; blubber is boiled in the try-pots on deck; the warm oil is decanted into casks, and then stowed in the ship. About 1,500 copies were sold within 11 days, and then sales slowed down to less than 300 the next year.

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And the long sentence in the middle of the above quotation simply acknowledges that Melville is struggling with the problem, not of choosing between fact and fancy but of how to interrelate them.

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The third book was the one Melville reviewed for the Literary World in 1847, J.

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American Bloomsbury: Louisa May Alcott, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Henry David Thoreau: Their Lives, Their Loves, Their Work. Whaling sources Melville's copy of *Natural History of the Sperm Whale*, 1839 In addition to his own experience on the whaling ship *Acushnet*, two actual events served as the genesis for Melville's tale.

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Harper's first printing was 2,915 copies, including the standard 125 review copies. Reviewers in Britain were largely favorable, though some objected that the tale seemed to be told by a narrator who perished with the ship, as the British edition lacked the Epilogue recounting Ishmael's survival.

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