

Indeed, strangeness wedded to beauty, is the soul of romance.

Lecture No-24
27.09.20 Poem in medieval castle and nunnery casts a romantic green over it, whose resolutions spread all round the fabric a strange mysterious and enchanting tale of passionate love.

The medieval cult of courtly love is a fine expression in stanza 24, where we find the lover, Porphyro worshipping Madeline as the Goddess. We have a dramatic recital of the romantic activities of Porphyro in Madeline's bed chamber.

To Keats "A thing of beauty is a joy for ever". In this poem we find Keats as a passionate worshipper of beauty. Madeline is the very embodiment of beauty. Her beauty is described in glaring sensual terms.

Keats's craftsmanship is fully evidenced in this poem. He had a principle of melody in verse. He held that vowels should be interchanged like different notes in music. He was a musical poet.

And still she slept an azure-lidded sleep,
From silken samarkand to cedar's Lebanon.

Keats was a sensual poet. He has been described as a sensual mystic. He provided the finest feast to his senses by his pictorial art. We have a vivid colourful picture of Madeline's bed chamber. Keats excels in the use of alliteration and other musical devices. These spiced delicacies are brought by Porphyro from silken samarkand to cedar's Lebanon. Here we have a music of proper name.

Thus, "The Eve of St. Agnes" is a memorable product of the romantic imagination.

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