

Nature in [19th Century American] Literature

Sujet 31

In the presence of nature, a wild delight runs through the man, in spite of real sorrows.

Ralph Waldo Emerson. Nature (Ch.1)

Nature has a special place in literature. It is not simply a location or a background to a story. It is a literary device and a literary theme with a specific significance. [19th century American] Literature makes remarkable use of this device as it tries to depict human existence [in the wilderness of the New World].

The purpose of the present TM project is:

1° to examine the literary role played by Nature in a novel chosen by each student in agreement with the teacher;

2° to develop some concrete personal approach to nature linked with the literary analysis mentioned above.



Frederic Edwin Church,
Morning in the Tropics
(around 1858)

Students who choose this research project should have a taste for literature and for the outdoor, and be prepared to read and write in English. You will be asked to define a specific subject after reading two or three books chosen from a reading list.

Yvan Cruchaud