
MODERN SENSIBILITY TOWARDS WILDERNESS AND LANDSCAPE IN HARDY'S NOVELS


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Abstract: Man is surrounded by land and landscape, wild and wilderness. We have been formed and firmed by Nature. All rights and remedies existed from it. Our rights and humanitarian fields are well safe-guarding to democratic state. It rebels against non-violence and cruelty. So nature renews, reassures, reaffirms and revitalizes its own identity. It is more sensitivity and sustainable thing. Nature is complex, not compulsion toward democratic, toward freedom, toward individual liberties and the promise of peace and prosperity for all. Thomas Hardy is the first of the writers I look at to show a modern sensibility towards nature and literature, and his works also press for truthfulness and bridged between them, and exposed the realities of human interaction with nature. Hardy believed that the society is a benign one. Soman's loss of land is personal loss of faith. Often, it may not entail his beliefs in a disorderly universe. For his understanding of nature is enlightened that what a healer need, indeed why everyone needs to learn and wishes to realize how to live rightly. Therefore all his characters are destiny and refused the Shakespearean mode of love of nature. For instance, Henchard and Tess are seen as the man of, child of wilderness. Hardy's characters are used to underline the sufferings and solaces of the human beings, but his observation in landscape so accurate, his sense of place so neat, land so strong that we don't feel they have been manipulated. Hardy is challenging what has been the second-rate life, I mean, constructed thro unbearable remedies and rights, but what he selected views in man's place in nature, unmediated life by religious beliefs. He believed that those religious believes are constructed and taught that all for the best. His characters look as infidelity, humility and represented modern sensitive rationalism, understanding of nature, possibilities and originalities of present state of mind etc...

Keywords: modern sensibility, disorderly universe, sense of place, of land, of landscape etc...

Introduction: Aristotle says, "Man is a social animal". It means a man deeply connects with nature and society, but relationship with society is constructed by humanitarian remedies and natural elements. Human rights are well safe-guarding to democratic, forming wealth and healthy state. These remedies and rights existed in nature, and rebel against violence and cruelty. In favor of sensibility and sensitive things, man must obey environmental obligations. Modern sensibility means to give attention towards material objectives of human society. According to Keith Thomas, in *Man and the Natural World*, defined a modern sensibility is appeared for 'non-utilitarian attitude to the natural world'. Material objectives and non-utilitarian attitudes are more transformation into human life. We can also see in environment such as dreadful, gloomy, wild, uncouth, emotional darkness, melancholy, and beast-haunted. So nature itself renews, reassures, reaffirms and revitalizes own identity. For instance, Mr. Hen chard and Tess revitalized and reaffirmed what they last primordial emptiness, later they were not fully satisfied with their comfort and coziness with life style. In modern context, Nature is complex, not compulsion toward democratic, toward freedom, toward individual liberties and the promise of peace and prosperity for all.

Thomas Hardy (1840-1928) was a genuine figure of

Victorian era. In his orate, wordy style, revealed Victorian social and sexual mores. He was the first of the writes what I looked at him to show a modern sensibility towards nature and his novels press for truthfulness and bridges between nature and human. It also exposed the realities of human interactions and modern sensitive bound with nature. All his novels depicted nature and man relationship with land, landscape and wilderness. Hardy illustrated nature's 'multifaceted' and 'multifarious' faces through his characters. Hardy also makes plain his sense of the nature and value of their occupation (Taplin, 1989. Pg.110). Hardy's novels represented that the symbolism of nature, preservation of wilderness, and understanding of surrounding was so complexity and comprehensive. These novels- *The Return of the Native* (1878), *The Mayor of the Caster bridge* (1986) and *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* (1891) reflected mediation between man and nature. The word 'Wessex' is a region of dream and mystery land which formed by modern sensibility and also surrounded many realistic places and wildlife. This dream of land first adopted in *Far From the Madding Crowd* (1878) work. His novels represented tragic flaw rather than dream of happiness. Shakespearean and Hardyan mode of tragic flaw is entirely different. Hardyan characters went on lower to higher prestige or social status then got down lower level, I mean, it followed "curve" line shape () but Shakespearean tragic characters

followed “anti-curve” line shape

() Land, Landscape and Wilderness:

Most of the modern characters sensibilities drew with curve mode. The curve life moves from middle to high and then from high to as it was early stage. The word ‘land’ is a place which connects with location and wilderness. Place similarly mediates between imagination and reality. A place is seen, heard, and smelled, imagined, loved, hated, feared, and revered (Walter, 1982: 142). Hardy’s creation of Wessex place becomes land of history and geographical place. We can get ‘production’ from land which called in mind place. The land is earth with form, places were created. So place and society are fused as a unity as a land based on human nature and culture together. In *The Return of the Native*, Diggory Venn described the excitement of the place where ‘out of the energy ten folk you meet nine of em in love’ (The First Book, The Three Women. Pg.107). Richard says Marnhull land shows immense skill in combining functionality, history, beauty (Richards, 2012, Slow Dorest. Pg.13). These are strongly connecting with place. The place is primordial nature and changeable one in *The Return of the Native*:

“... the sea changed, the fields changed, the river, the villages, and the people changed. Yet Egdon Remained, those surface were neither so steep as to be destructible by weather nor so flat as to be the victims of floods and deposits ”(pg.12).

The land of Wessex was described as a merely realistic dreamland. The regions of Wessex or tract of lands had acquired Hardy’s artistic modern sense; enlarge of a picture depicting scenery on land. Hardy’s Wessex described places, wilderness, landscape, naturalism and human culture etc..

Landscape and Wilderness: Landscape refers to the appearance of an area, the assemblage of objects used to produce that appearance the area itself. Landscape typically refers to rural rather than urban contexts. It should also be thought of as shaped by the mind of the beholder, as well as by socio-historical forces. Landscape setting is of crucial importance in Hardy’s novels and his finest novels are all set in the region of Wessex. It was imaginary region and filled with landscape, wilderness. Wilderness refers to a spatial area, where as wilderness is a term of quality rather than location. It shares the sense of “undomesticated” wilderness. Gary Snyder says, “Wilderness is arguable”. Everywhere ineradicable populations of fungi, moss, mold Yeats and such that surround and inhabitant as, (Snyder.1990.14). In modern usage, wild is a term of ‘value’. Thoreau claimed “wilderness is the preservation of the world... but his primary interest was not is wilderness as such but in discovering and honoring the evidences of the wild near at home, in

the tonic of wilderness as an antidote to hyper civilization”. Wilderness is extremely far away. Wild is near at hyper-civilized gate. Landscape meant the aspects of land and characteristics of a particular ground and region that has been landscape. The boundaries had extended to landscape. Land is limit and merely masseur.

Dorest or Dorchester was the birth place of Hardy and named Caster bridge in *The Mayor of Caster bridge novel*. It is the main center place in the *Mayor of Caster bridge* (1886). This novel depicted rural world and described people at fairs change like the leaves of tress (Taplin, 1989.pg.113). This world of green men is the norm, the world from which the tragic flaw in Hen chard’s nature shuts him out (Taplin, 1989.pg.113). He undergoes a time of ‘emotional darkness’ of which the adjoining woodland shade afforded inadequate illustration his fierce suffering goes beyond the natural (pg.113). Hardy seems as if the man of wilderness. The trees are continually describing in terms of notions. Nature looks like having human parts of the body and even human clothing in the shape of human life. It is exactly a mirror of modern sensibility. Nature was implicated in the fall of man and redeemed alongside it. Henchard’s personal loss of faith may not entice his beliefs in a random or disorderly universe. Disorderly universal behaviour means things in various fields, having no definite aim or purpose, not guided in a particular direction without method or conscious choice. The concept of disorderly universal mode proposed a non-arrangement in a sequence of life. Such a life is no intelligible pattern or combination. Hardy’s Henchard followed disorderly universal mode of life. In this notion of non-coherence is irrelevant. This is associated with the identification and the calculation of probabilities of the events. This kind of Hardyan style called the conception of randomness. This is absolutely free and unbounded style. It has emphasized by the characters psychological behaviour. So Hardy called that the society is a benign and organic.

In *Tess of the d’Urbervilles*, Tess is deflowered and also likened to the pheasant which have been wounded and left to die by the gentry’s inaccurate shooting. She is seen as the child of nature. Society may reject her and make her withdraw, but goes out after dark and when out in the woods. That she seemed less solitary. Hardy once more uses a tree image, telling us that “the sapling which had rooted down to a poisonous stratum on the spot of its sowing had been transplanted to a deeper soil”. We fill with Tess: her tragedy is personal, but Hardy has seen her story in social and historical terms. I felt it that social and historical backdrops strongly connect with places and certain events.

Maxgate was designed by Hardy himself. He chose this location on the edge of Dorset town. Henchard's life in the Mayor of Casterbridge started from Maxgate to Dorchester. The destruction of the way of life is artfully shown in this novel. Henchard's reliance upon verbal arguments and rule of thumb are replaced by Donald Farfrae. Farfrae is "fair and ruddy, bright-eyed, and slight in build". He is a light-hearted and practical. He is more calculated man of economic methods and technical innovation.

Egdon Heath, in the *Return of the Native*, forms a symbol for the cosmic world of mankind. According to Hardy, landscape means, "It is pleasant to dream that some spot in the extensive tract whose south-western quarter in Dorchester. It describes that may be Heath of that traditional king of Wessex. Hardy's symbolic use of landscape is more insistent and under pinned by appeals to classical mythology. Egdon Heath is another example of Hardy's landscape reflected the permanent human condition in the novel. He says-

"The untamable, Ishmaelitic thing that Egdon how was it always had been. Civilization was its enemy.

Ever since the beginning of vegetation its soil has worn the same antique brown dress, the natural and invariable garment of the formation... to want the oldest and simplest human. Clothing where the clothing of the earth is so primitive". (pg.12)

In *The Return of the Native*, character like ClymYeobright who understood the Heath and implication man's essentially subordinated place in nature. Egdon is home, a place to be loved and liked Eustacia Vye. It is a prison, offering with the illusion of Escape. Hardy's relationship with the landscape has been examined at length by critics. Egdon Heath is one of the most frequent cited and best known. In *The Return of the Native*, amalgam of scattered areas of Moorland chiefly noticed in the east of Dorchester, Warmham road and South of the Dorset, Wimborne road. The valley of the River Frome, scene of Tess marks the southern boundary of the heath.

Hardy's landscape main similar to Studland Heath, to the south-east which has been less damaged and populated or planted with forest. This area of EgdonHeath is life with Witchcraft and superstition. Marnhullisone of the principle locations of Tess of the d'Urbervilles in north of Dorchester. "This fertile land and sheltered landscape are never brown and springs never dry"(The First Book, the Maiden; the chapterII). It is the first series of landscape that punctuated the changes in mood and circumstances of Tess's life. In Tess, Shaston is on mile stone and is one of the boundaries of the young Tess's world, gazing from her home in Marlott. Hardy was fascinated by Shaftesbury, calling it "city of dreams" because of its history and one of the qualities spots in

England... breams and mimsical. Waymouth is worldly pleasurable and splendor place then became the choice for holiday resort in the south of Dorchester. Egdon Heath which is located in the south and east of Dorchester the Heath provides a rich setting for the interplay between landscape and character in the *Return of the Native*. It retained a powerful atmosphere of hostility to civilization, providing refuge for the outcast and the rejected.

Hardy's Novels have landscape features which are broadly defined as components of it used by geologic, wildlife, vegetation, structural elements. This may be called components of ecosystem which is included isolated structure, variety of characteristics. It also included flora and fauna, forest, grassland, heath land, rivers, wetland. For instance, in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, there are four essential landscape feature of Wessex described:

1. The heavy Clayland of the Vale of Blackmoor. It is "the valley of Tess's birth and the valley of her love"(The *Return of the Native*.pg.468). It is bounded to the south-east of Wessex. It is characterized by the heaviness of its soil and its 'languorous' atmosphere.
2. The rich heathland valleys of the Frome. It is separated from the valley of the Great Dairies by the belt of two heath land: upland (Casterbridge) and Egdon heath land (Dorchester). In them middle land, landscape of Blackmoor and the valley of the Great Dairies covered with 'vast flat' meadows- a level landscape compounded of old landscapes long forgotten and is a green through of sappiness of humidity.(pg.469). This lacks 'the intensely blue atmosphere' in this part of landscape.
3. The forbidding chalk upland of Flinteomb-Ash. It is fifteen miles walk from Moslott. This landscape of stony lanchets or lynchests is whity brown, virtually tree-less and crossed with while dusty lanes. It was first called 'Alton Ash Farm' which located south of churchHill, the north-east of Alton Pranchras, east of Nettlecombe Tout. Flinteomb-Ash placed somewhere between Alton Pranchras and MelcombeBingham.
4. Emminster (Beaminster) is the fringes of the great barren heathland which impinge upon the paths of the Tess's journey. It is a 'hill surrounded little town' between Emminster and Blackmoor lies the elevated dorsal line of south Wessex. The half of Tess's journey crossed the straight deserted Roman road called Long-Ash Lane.This ends with the 'meandering route' traced between two locations on the fringe of novels central landscape; Sandbourne and Stonechnage. We can be exacted Hardyan geographical description, the vast tract of unenclosed wild (The *Return of the Native*. pg.09), beautiful landscape and closer harmony with external. Hardy challenged that what has been the second rate life enticed and constructed through unbearable remedies and rights. But he

likened and selected to see man's place in nature, unmediated life by religious believes are constructed and taught that all for the best. So that's why Hardyan characters seemed that fidelity, humility, represent modern sensitive rationalism (Henchard in *The Mayor of Casterbridge*), understanding of nature (Clyn Yeobright in *The Return of the Native*) and possibilities and originalities (Tess in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*). This can be easily pointed out that Hardy's sense of environmental presentation, right to free, love of landscape exposed, for instance artistically drew a life of Mrs. Yeobright. It is clearly endorsed Clyn Yeobright imagery and likeness of

motto-return of nature. Thus, Hardyan styles of characters are deeply and fully survive for one. Hardyan understanding of his characters understands of nature. So William Barnes says Hardy was born in wood (Taplin.1989.pg.107)

Thus, modern sensibility towards wilderness and landscape, in Hardyan style, were practically marked by the realization and actively built by complex ideas. His characters are more associated with themselves rather than others reasons. The self-happiness and sense perception is quite governed by feelings instead of reasons. It based on 'true and natural' feelings.

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