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Eng 1121-0465
Poetry Analysis—Maff#

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Robert Frost once said, "Poetry is when an emotion has found its thought and the thought has found words." Many people use poetry as a form of art. The poet uses voice as a paint brush and words as color being painted on a blank canvas. Poetry can be written in any way, shape or form. It has no mistakes, wrong answers or rules, and this is what I love about it. Anyone can let their imagination run wild and come up with a piece of art in words. The poet Moulana Jalaluddin Rumi has won a place in my heart for his thoughtful and articulate words that inspire me to a great extent. His poems capture various events in my life, which then I can view from a different perspective. I chose his poem, "Empty the Glass of Your Desire" to analyze. In this poem, Rumi has addresses several ideas, that will leave you intrigued. He also addresses many themes, which includes value of friendship, connection with God, and giving up our desires. By analyzing these

themes, I can now view life from a different perspective.

The poem starts out with a stanza on the theme of friendship. The hustle and bustle of our fast paced society has created distances and barriers between friends, families, and next door neighbors. We now rely on the virtual world to communicate with each other. Texting, instant messages and emails are the new trend for communication. We hardly have face to face meetings anymore and because of this, we value our relationships less. To have friendships filled with laughter and togetherness brightens the soul of all individuals involved. Rumi wants to point out to us that great joy is found in unifying ourselves with others. In order to reach the depths of happiness, we must give up our individual self to others. Human interaction is very important for everyone. It helps us learn things from others and more importantly, it helps us grow as

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individuals. Human beings are excellent at absorbing information and by interacting with others we expand our possibilities in life. In my case, I am more of an introvert. I prefer being quiet and analyzing others. Rumi's poem inspires me to interact more with people to strengthen my relationships. This stanza is also saying that we should give help to those who are lost in their ways and we will get rewards for this in return. The rewards will not be a prize or raffle ticket, but a feeling of fulfillment and self-worth.

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The theme of desires is also addressed in this poem. Rumi especially signifies the importance of giving up our worldly desires to reach personal satisfaction. Qur world is rapidly evolving every day. The virtual world and materialistic things have taken over our existence. We value our net worth and strive for luxurious living. These inspirations are introduced to us by celebrities and what we see on TV. The new trends have a great impact on our day-to-day lives. We have become greedier and our lists of desires keep growing at a rapid pace. We want the expensive handbags and we want to drive the most luxurious cars but for most of us, these goals are hardly attainable. Due to these new goals, we have become sidetracked from our main purpose in life. I believe Rumi is simply stating that we must take a step back from the material world and remember what is truly at stake in our/life; which is the lives and well beings of others. We are all in this world together and to be solely focused on our own desires, and material wants will not make us whole, but will make us empty. If we truly want to find sense and purpose in our life, it will be the way we treat others and the strengths we possess to give others that will show us the way to a true feeling of balance and meaning. I can relate to this idea because I have fallen prey to being obsessed with materialistic things such as shoes, bags, and makeup. Rumi's poem has motivated me to let go of my material desires and be more accepting towards myself and by doing this, I have become happier overall.

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Finally, Rumi addresses the most important theme and that is creating a connection with God.

Without religion, we are walking around aimlessly with no direction and purpose and with no purpose, we begin to desire worldly things. We pollute ourselves with drugs and alcohol to simply live and to have fun. We do not realize that we are doing more harm to ourselves than good. By connecting ourselves to religion, we no longer act without thinking. We become more responsible and purposeful. Religion provides us with the guidance and gives us the opportunity of choice. We are able to detect the difference between right and wrong. A man without religion is like a ship without a radar, and Rumi pushes his readers to rid themselves from worldly desires in order to give way to the illumination of the greater divinity. Giving up our physical appetites gives way to rewards that we are otherwise unaware of. God is not a scary deity in the sky, but one who we can join with in communion. Outside of earthly measures we can find Rumi, the deity and others with whom we can end our isolation.

Overall, Rumi orchestrates a complex and compelling poem for readers who are looking to escape to a different side of reality. A side where we can find ourselves and reach new heights. Ultimately he wishes us to get beyond that which blocks us from finding the truth, and urges that it is possible with the resources which exist within us. This poem has inspired me to a great extent and I am filled with more knowledge about self-reflection. God has sent us to this world not to just live it for ourselves but to live it for the entire humanity. I would recommend this poem to everyone, especially to those who are lost and looking for a purpose in life. It can change a person's perspective on humanity, desires and everything in between. I am glad I found this poem because it has a great impact on me and it will stay with me forever.

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