William Blake

The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes of others only a green thing which stands in the way.

Some see nature all ridicule and deformity, and by these I shall not regulate my proportions; and some scarce see nature at all.

But to the eyes of the man of imagination, nature is imagination itself. As a man is, so he sees.

Writers/Themes covered:

ROMANTIC POETRY:
Blake, Wordsworth, Keats, Byron, Hemans, Mary & Percy Shelley

NOVELS:
Brontë, Wuthering Heights
Hardy, Jude the Obscure
Joyce, Ulysses

THEORY
Green Studies Reader:
From Romanticism to Ecocriticism
Frankfurt School
Socialist Feminism
Foucault, History of Sexuality

The Carnivalesque and the Sublime:

When the starry sky, a vista of open seas, or a stained-glass window shedding purple beams fascinate me, there is a cluster of meaning, of colors, of words, of caresses, there are light touches, scents, sighs, cadences that arise, shroud me, carry me away, and sweep me beyond the things I see, hear, or think. The "sublime" object dissolves in the raptures of a bottomless memory.

— Julie Kristeva, Powers of Horror

Transgression & the Sublime:

'T is the perception of the beautiful,
A fine extension of the faculties,
Platonic, universal, wonderful,
Drawn from the stars, and filter'd through the skies,
Without which life would be extremely dull;

In short, it is the use of our own eyes,
With one or two small senses added,

To hint that flesh is form'd of fiery dust

Byron, Don Juan