

## SUBLIME FICTION?

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### \* Getting caught up:

late 17'th-> "Sublime" refers to a certain range of imaginative and affective responses to vastness and extreme power, to the fearful threatening, the grand and imposing, the vertiginous and appalling, to that which strains imagination and stumps reason.-> marvelous- great- fantastic, nausea, vertigo, amazing, absolutely being sacred might be splendid exalting, fun, terrific, a kind of pick experience, exalted above normalities of the regular day.

> Known through certain elements of the natural environment or by way of literature, painting, architecture, photography, film, music, and technology; Richard Rigg's artwork, *A Clearing*(2012)-> The sublime is thus denaturalized, unmasked as a **human construct**. It is dwarfed beside human imaginative capacity. it itself, the mountain is in distinguished -> its sublime distinction comes from the viewer. the sublime is a **cultural construct**, a formation in and of the cultural imaginary

18'th -> the "sublime" became a catchword for the way in which civilized people should take in such vistas of immensity. The sublime was variously expounded , identifies an invigoration combination of pleasure and pain, named as delightful horror, a thrilling discomfiture. a seductive terror, an unknown - Sublime natural, sublime paintings, architecture, and writing, stir a movement, disruption, recovery. -18'th sublime : attributed to Longinus' *On the Sublime*-: 18'th century authors pounced on Longinus' description of the high, lofty-that is sublime-style as revealing our special destiny above all other animals. Sublimity is violent; it thrusts reasoned persuasion aside and prevails over us by "superior force" but the outcome is for our good. -> the entire modern tradition of the sublime, Longinus proclaimed, "**All other qualities prove their possessors to be men, but sublimity raises them near majesty of God.**" Sublime experience registers our **birth right**.

- . John Dennis: religious poetry as the proper home of the sublime and the acme of hume culture.
- . Edward Young: sublimity as the engine of moral and religious conversion.
- . John Baillie: as passion's royal path to the virtue and "Noble pride"
- . James Ussher : Young lady , the soul assumes an unknown grandeur.
- . **more influential than most**: Joseph Addison essays in the *Spectator* : "Good taste" a thoughtful, sensitive, intellectually astute class,-> new readers of journals and papers and in coffee house, where fashions in life, art, and

literature were bred contested: England's gentry- an educated, talkative class, a "public." Sublimity, along with its God and its humanity, penetrated the English imagination by way of Addison's energetic, culturally formative public.

According to Addison, "The pleasures of the Imagination" are novelty, beauty of form and most important, greatness, "pleasing astonishment" that greatness produces identifies it with the sublime; Human beings are designed, that they are happiest only as their vision roams freely-> discloses the freedom that is essential to humanity. -> "Reason and imagination" -> Movement; metaphor for this liberty.

. Motion had a central place in the new science; the need for movement: Essential humanity always demands somewhere else to go, at last imagination, in an endless supply of alternative world-> Nature and fantasy, stimulate our wandering and feed us "without any certain stint or Number." Here Addison's language reflects England's newly flourishing **capitalist economy**-> **the sublime** privileges **sight**, among the senses as the most perfect and delightful of all.

\* Participators than as spectators:

For all the stress on passion among advocates of the sublime. Perhaps most seriously, the priority given to sight by the sublime imports the idea of distance into the relationship between the soul and God.-> seeing is the principal sensory medium for human freedom. This sublime imagination is acquisitive but acquires its objects in order to have them evaporate in a desire that passes beyond them: Addison's the drive of a "consumer sublime: restless hunger for finite goods, the striving to subject everything to our desire, as to the kind of freedom that has the sublime as its object and goal. the city's wealthy pursue; then the problematic character of that capitalist consumption, any reality configured and represented in terms of the sublime.

- 18'th century theorists differed but all agreed that the sublime was, or allowing for perverse form of it, should be good for you. -throughout its history, the correlation appears repeatedly between the magnificence of the sublime and the greatness of the human soul. The unusually grand claims made for science fiction.

\* Science Fiction; Unlike mainstream literature, science fiction refuses the limits of mundane and generally melancholy, realism and stakes its place in the domains of time and space, the infinite possibilities out there, disappeared from our planet. it aims to astound and illuminate, to inspire the lax and anxious heart into bracing energy. Its" mysteries stimulate the heart, the will, and the imagination toward something beyond day-to-day survival." -> the humble truth is that science fiction is only for the small number of people who like to think and who regard the universe with awe, which is a blend of love and fear. (p.21)

- "judicious obscurity", "sensible of invisible power", "positively operative" -> the sublime has an "event structure" composed of conflict and of recovery at a higher level. The check becomes a breakthrough and great minds enlarging as their views enlarge; more godlike more Divine.(p.23 참조).

\* what is the sublime for?

All the "pleasures of the imagination" are "conductive to Health," but the sublime is the mechanism of our spiritual end, leading us along the grain of our making to the worship of God, in easy stages of terrific delight, The "event structure of sublimity, as it displaces in order to re-place the mind in elevation, ensures that the worshiper knows herself as a fit correspondent to the worshiped. ->the sublime raises the mind to fits of greatness, and disposes it to soar above her Mother earth , gives a lofty conception of her own Powers. In the sublime the greatness of God and of humanity are correlate. Human beings bear the sublime within them, a sensibility always waiting its breakthrough into consciousness. -> The sovereignty of God holds sway over the soul and over nature, and the sublime is its most characteristic disclosure.