

Heaven, If you are not here on Earth

Comprehension I.

Question 1.

According to the poet 'heaven' is

- (a) on earth.
- (b) within us.
- (c) elsewhere.

Answer:

(b) within us.

Question 2.

Who creates 'heaven on earth'?

Answer:

'Poets' create heaven on earth.

Question 3.

The poet finds God in

- (a) nature
- (b) earth
- (c) Temple

Answer:

(a) nature.

Question 4.

What does the line 'Heaven lies all over!' suggest?

Answer:

The line 'Heaven lies all over' suggests that the beauty of heaven lies in the splendour of nature, in the harvest, and in the moonlit night.

Comprehension II.

Question 1.

Describe the beauty in nature that makes the earth a heavenly place.

Answer:

The earth is a heavenly place due to its stunning natural beauty, including the roaring streams and rolling foam of the ocean waves, the tender sunlight gracing green trees and grasses in our gardens, the moonlight illuminating heaps of grains at night, and the gentle sun that warms the landscape. All these elements contribute to the enchanting allure of nature.

Question 2.

Why does the poet feel that the earth is more beautiful than heaven?

Answer:

The poet finds inspiration in nature, which provides rich subjects for his poetry and brings happiness to humanity. Rather than seeking an elusive heaven, he prefers to envision it right here on Earth. Since we cannot be certain of what heaven holds—whether it has moonlight, trees, or rivers—the poet suggests that our earthly surroundings are, in fact, more beautiful than any imagined paradise.

Comprehension III.

Question 1.

How does the poet break the myth of heaven in this poem?

Answer:

The poet challenges the myth of heaven by suggesting that it is not an elusive place to be sought after, but rather something that can be created in our own surroundings. He questions the notion of heaven by asking where it can be found if not on Earth.

By asserting that man embodies divinity through goodness in his heart, he emphasizes that there is no need to search elsewhere for God. The beauty of the Earth—with its green trees, rushing streams, rolling waves, and radiant sunlight—surpasses any heavenly imagery, showcasing the Earth's ability to create a paradise through its natural wonders.

Question 2.

How does the poem celebrate the power of the poet?

Answer:

The poem highlights the poet's desire to foster a harmonious relationship with nature and cultivate morality and honesty among humanity. He envisions a heaven on Earth, emphasizing that the beauty of nature not only brings pleasure to humankind but also inspires his poetic expression. By illustrating the splendor of the natural world, the poem underscores the poet's role in shaping a vision of paradise through his creativity and authenticity, affirming that the power to create a heavenly existence lies within the poet's words and intentions.

Additional Questions and Answers

Question 1.

Find out the alliteration in the poem.

Answer:

“roaring stream rushes fast” is an example of alliteration.

Question 2.

Where does heaven lie?

Answer:

Heaven lies all over the things.

Question 3.

Where does the sunshine fall on?

Answer:

The tender sunshine falls on green trees.

Question 4.

What do the words “Imbibing and spilling” mean?

Answer:

The words “Imbibing and spilling” mean understanding the beauties of nature and that nature can bring out the beauty in the form of a poem and the readers read it and taste it as nectar.

Heaven, If you are not here on Earth Summary



– Kuvempu

The poem “Heaven, If You Are Not Here On Earth” by Kuvempu conveys the message that humans should seek heaven not in distant realms, but right here on Earth. The poet urges us to live peacefully without creating chaos, emphasizing that if we cannot become gods ourselves, there is no point in searching for them in an unseen world. Instead, he encourages the cultivation of virtues like honesty, love, compassion, loyalty, and mercy, which elevate us to a divine status.

Kuvempu asserts that true beauty lies in nature—the lush greenery, the ocean's foam, and the sunlight—elements that surpass any heavenly experience. He warns that

failing to recognize this beauty renders one blind to the essence of heaven. This idea echoes Milton's sentiment that "there is no heaven and hell in this universe; it is only a state of mind."



The poet also invites us to appreciate the brilliance and tranquility of the full moon, whose beams illuminate the grains below, creating a scene more radiant than any heaven. Nature not only inspires the poet but also serves as the subject of immortal poetry that is as sweet as nectar. Through his verses, Kuvempu creates a vision of heaven on Earth, symbolizing humanity and preaching morality to ensure a better future for generations to come.