

Use the TP-CASTT method to analyze the following poem. Then, in your journal, explain how both Shelley and Akutagawa utilize symbolism to convey a common thematic message.

Ozymandias

Percy Bysshe Shelley, 1792 - 1822

I met a traveller from an antique land
Who said: "Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert . . . Near them, on the sand,
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed:
And on the pedestal these words appear:
'My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!'
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare
The lone and level sands stretch far away."

Percy Bysshe Shelley, 1792 – 1822

Percy Shelley, regarded by some as one of the finest lyric poets in the English language, was a major figure of English Romanticism. Though he did not achieve major critical acclaim during his lifetime, his works, including the classic poem "Ozymandias," have inspired generations of poets.

