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**PERSONAL IDENTITY AS EXPRESSED IN ROBERT FROST'S
STOPPING BY THE WOODS ON A SNOWY EVENING**

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ABSTRACT

Evening is the time, when people come in parks with children to enjoy fresh air, after a hard day's work. If there is snowfall, the enjoyment of people doubles, as it is a mesmerizing thing to human eye. Literary analysis considers evening as fading intentions and desires, which is seen among old people. Stopping by woods is something, which people do for getting the relaxation from drab monotony. This relaxation is desired, even if the woods are not in their property and others. Confidence on not being noticed is a different kind of enjoyment, which people get. This enjoyment is something which reduces being trapped within the boundaries, limitations, causing depression.

Keywords: Personal, Identity, Expression, Robert Frost, woods, evening, stops, snow, poetry

1. INTRODUCTION

Personal identity is one of an important element, which was introduced by American poets. Through poetic compositions, poets expressed their identity, which flourished from their family history, private pains, and realities accepted. Use of free verse, helped the people to understand the extent to which people were compelled to suffer in their personal and professional spheres. Everyday spoken language helped people to relate with the everyday issues, which happened in their surroundings. In the everyday hustles and bustles, people find their new identity, which emerges within the postmodern abstractism. This abstractism is from the meaninglessness in existence, which the people feel from responsibilities which they have to fulfill, venturing within the cycle of life. This cycle continues without breaks. In this context, there is a need for stopping by some parks, where fresh air provides relaxation to the people, who are jostling with the drab monotony of life.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Kim, (2024) portrays the implied commentary, which Frost produces for the poem, Stopping by the woods on a Snowy Evening. The line, “He will not see me stopping here,” is the negation of others’ restrictions of not intervening into their life. This induces selfishness, which is a common trait among people in postmodern times. This selfishness has reduced love for others, which was there immensely in earlier times.

But, (2023) stated that music flows in every line of the poem, Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening. Through this music, a rhythm is created for time and style in which people lead their life. In this context, stopping to see the woods filled with snow induces relaxation from the monotonous life, in which the people have been trapped. But seldom people get this opportunity in the postmodern times to watch and appreciate nature’s beauty. Rather it is the social media, from which they are getting the news of natural beauty seen or discovered, like snow in the woods.

Frost, (1978) brought the relation between man and nature. Common perceptions are universal truth that every being has to die one day. Symbolization is portrayed through woods, which induces long journey which people have to undertake in this world. Evening is the time, which states the freshness, energy and vigor, dying, just like the old people feeling low. The horse is personified with queer feelings on stopping at woods in others’ property.

Iqbal, S. W., Bari, H., & Bibi, R. (2025) conducted a Van Dijkian discourse analysis for the poem, Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening. Here, diversity prevails as different people’s perspectives are considered for analyzing the poem from multiple perceptions. Some may feel that why to stop and look at woods which are there in others’ property. Others feel that it is natural and obvious to appreciate some natural beauty, which has come to sight, even if it is not in their own property. Example is the common

tendency among people to stop and appreciate flowers which has come in the garden of their neighbors' house.

Uddin and Rahman, (2025) explored human limitations, which are there in their life. They have certain boundaries, which they cannot cross for being accepted within society. For instance, they are to be within their boundaries while at social gatherings. Some humans seclude themselves, when they feel that it is a burden on them. This feeling creates a situation of depression, anxiety and stress among them, affectation normalcy in life. Social constructs in their surroundings try to compete with the people and go ahead. The people in rural areas are victims as they are compelled to experience taunts, mocking, demeaning their confidence, and devaluing their abilities, skills, competencies and abilities.

But, (2025) produced a psychological perspective to analysis of the poem, stopping by woods on a snowy evening. Illness could be genuine or psychological, which comes from depression. People tend to take pressures, lamenting for lots to do before they die. Most of the people, in their young age, feel in this way. This feeling contradicts their energy, vigor and fresh feelings, with which they do the things and lead life.

3. METHODOLOGY

Positivism philosophy is selected for developing positive, scientific, objective, real and epistemological knowledge on poetry, their composition, and features during the time, which was prevalent. Deductive approach is chosen for deducing facts related to abstract nature of life, and evolving identities. Exploratory research design is justified in terms of exploring the impact created by these identities on the personality of people in postmodern society. Data for the subject is collected from books, journal articles, websites, and government reports among others. After collecting data from these sources, they are analyzed in the form of themes related to human boundaries, limitations, depression, stress, anxiety. In consideration these themes, researcher ensured that they are acknowledged, so that instances of plagiarism and collusion is averted. Also, the sources requiring subscription are not selected. Gaps lies in the results which has been established in previous studies and the ones which has been derived in this paper.

4. CONCLUSION

Various perspectives have been applied for analyzing the poem, stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening. These perspectives are implemented from the domains of psychological and Van Dijikian, which induces diversity in cultures. From these perspectives, a common fact which develops is the limitations, in which people find themselves. Due to these limitations and boundaries, they cannot acquaint themselves with their exact identity. As a result of this, they search for something, which relaxes their perturbed minds. In this context, woods are that relaxation, even if there are snows in the evening time. Amidst dying intentions and

wishes, the woods, are temporary relaxation, before the desires which fades like the energy, vigor and freshness of youth age.

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