

Poetry

The New Colossus by Emma Lazarus

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Bibliography

Poem

Lazarus, Emma "The New Colossus" The New York Times. 1903.

https://poets.org/poem/new-colossus?gclid=CjwKCAjwr7X4BRA4EiwAUXjbt1cev9mWNR_f8Joy5E2Xa0Hfqs31CvDzezFa5tIOOW4VQKKI01gMPxoCOLkQAvD_BwE. Accessed 7/14/2020

"Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glow world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

Sources

Allen, A. (2020). Emma Lazarus: "The New Colossus" by Austin Allen. Poetry Foundation.

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/articles/144956/emma-lazarus-the-new-colossus>.

An examination of the mixed roots and civic meanings of Lazarus' poem that has become synonymous with the American ideals of freedom, inclusiveness, tolerance, and, of course, liberty. A look into history and meaning behind Emma Lazarus and her poem. Despite these hopeful American ideals, there has always been a sizable portion of Americans who oppose it through xenophobia, bigotry, and classism. Also looking at the connotative message through the use of diction "wretched refuse" and the meaning behind it. I want to use this source to argue the new meaning the poem and the Statue of Liberty take in the 21st century with yet another rise of nativism and white nationalism.

Wolosky, S. (1996). An American-Jewish Typology: Emma Lazarus and the Figure of Christ.

jstor.org.

https://www.jstor.org/stable/20689446?casa_token=a1UU--NRGRwAAAAA%3APwL4kZeoJkpBr

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Wolosky's paper on *The New Colossus* takes a Jewish Feminist Lense of the poem and how significant that is to represent the gateway of a country that is patriarchal and puritan in values. This represents the ever changing nature and identity of the U.S, but it cannot be deemphasized that these changes do not come without back lash from those white, puritanical men, who want to maintain their status quo in *their* country. Looking at the intersections of Lazarus as an individual will offer greater insight into her poem and the meaning it lends to the Statue of Liberty it was written for, and what the statue represents.

Video Imagery

Ellis Island - History of Immigration to the United States (June 20th, 2013)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8X4CypTaOOs>

Arrival of immigrants, Ellis Island (June, 3rd, 2010) Library of Congress

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pzHeOH7h52c>

Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island - 2 minute HD tour (October 14th, 2009) FinelyHoliday

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=42yO2FUWL6A>

The Statue of Liberty 1922 (April 13th, 2014) British Pathe

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ArRlnTmSkill&t=25s>