

VAISHALI MAHILA MAHAVIDYALAYA HAJIPUR, VAISHALI

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
Takes you to–



DREAM CHILDREN

Charles Lamb

Born	10 February 1775 Inner Temple , London, England
Died	27 December 1834 (aged 59) Edmonton , London, England
Occupation	essayist, poet, and antiquarian
Language	English
Nationality	English



NOTABLE
WORKS

Tales from Shakespeare, 1807

Blank Verse, poems, 1798

Essays of Elia, 1823

Eliana, 1867

INTRODUCTION

Written about a dream world, the essay Dream Children by Charles Lamb belongs to his famous work, Essays of Elia() published in London Magazines. Referring to himself by the pseudonym Elia, Lamb has penned down the essays as personal accounts of his life devoid of any didactic or moral lessons.

Enriched with humour, pathos and regret for the time long gone, Lamb essays leave an everlasting impression on the minds and hearts of the readers.

Summary

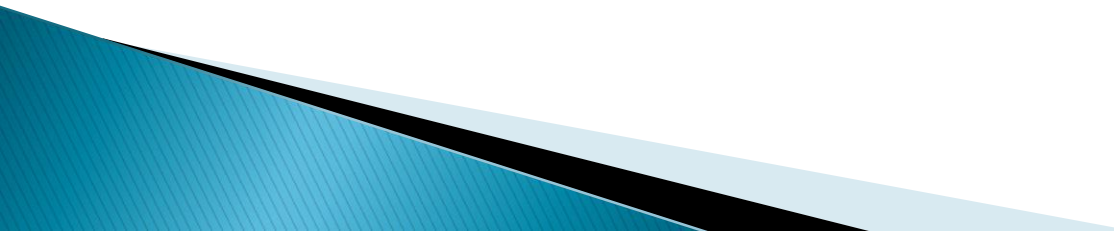
Charles Lamb begins his essay *Dream Children* by describing to his young children Alice and John the tales of his childhood when he used to live with his great-grandmother Mrs Field. In nostalgic tone, Lamb narrates to the children the humorous details of his time spent in his great grandmother's house; the love between the two brothers, Charles and John, their frequent wandering and mischiefs in the grand house and their memories of the



Orchid trees and the fish pond.

The tone of the essays shifts from humorous to tragic when Lamb describes the death of his beloved brother and great grandmother whom he loses at an early age of his life. The essayist's unfulfilled longings and desire are also evident in his work when he narrates to the children the events and incidents from his past life.

The essay highlights the themes of loss and regret in Lamb's life. The essayist reflects nostalgically on his childhood and regrets the loss of his dear ones.



He also feels depressed on the loss of his unrequited love Alice and regrets not marrying her. Moreover, Lamb regrets that the happy and joyous days of his childhood are gone in a blink of an eye.

During his adulthood, Lamb takes the loneliness to the heart desperately yearning for the return of the old happier days of his life. The Essay reaches its climax when the readers become aware of the reality that the children listening to Lamb's stories are nothing but a figment of his imagination and a dream of a sleeping man.

- ▶ This essay revolving around the happy childhood days and the lonely adult age, brings to the mind the transient nature of life where nothing remains forever in an individual's life.

CONCLUSION

Dream Children by Charles Lamb highlights the pain and regret of losing the loved ones in life persuading the essayist to indulge in a dream world fantasy in order to reflect upon the sweet memories of the days gone by.

**HOPE YOU
UNDERSTOOD AND
ENJOYED**

THANK YOU