

In made a speech
more eloquent in the



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In his preface, Garrison used an admirable tone that emphasized his fondness for Douglass. Garrison's use of diction shows that he thinks Douglas is a gem of a person when he says, "There stood one, in physical proportion and stature commanding and exact—in intellect richly endowed—in natural eloquence a prodigy—in soul manifestly "created but a little lower than the angels"—yet a slave" (4). Garrison used a lot of hyphens to list all the positive characteristics that Douglas's personality has. Garrison couldn't stop praising the way Douglas gives his speeches. He even went as far as calling Douglas a better speaker than Patrick Henry. Garrison said, "As soon as he had taken his seat, filled with hope and admiration, I rose, and declared that PATRICK HENRY, of revolutionary fame, never made a speech more eloquent in the cause of liberty, than the one we had just listened to from the lips of that hunted fugitive" (4). The language Garrison uses gradually forms into passion for Douglas.

He started with describing Douglas's importance, then his intelligence, and then his almost divine virtues. Garrison has used quite a few literary devices in this preface; one of them is rhetorical questions. He used rhetorical questions to make a point and those questions don't require an answer. He asked, "O, how accursed is that system, which entombs the godlike mind of man, defaces the divine image, reduces those who by creation were crowned with glory and honor to a level with four-footed beasts, and exalts the dealer in human flesh above all that is called God! Why should its existence be prolonged one hour? Is it not evil, only evil, and that continually? What does its presence imply but the absence of all fear of God, all regard for man, on the part of the people of the United States" (9)? These

questions don't require an answer; Garrison just asked these questions to make the readers self-reflect. People who indulge into slavery must have forgotten all fear of God. They go to church, they say that they are God fearing human beings, but actions speak louder than words and their actions show that they have no fear.

Garrison also used some imagery in his preface. He gave such detailed descriptions of instances that I could see the events happening in my head as though I was present there. Garrison mentioned, "I think the most thrilling one of them all is the description DOUGLASS gives of his feelings, as he stood soliloquizing respecting his fate, and the chances of his one day being a freeman, on the banks of the Chesapeake Bay-viewing the receding vessels as they flew with their white wings before the breeze, and apostrophizing them as animated by the living spirit of freedom" (8). While reading these lines, I could see Douglas standing at the bay, staring at the waves and thinking about his fate. I could feel the sadness and grief that he must have been feeling.

Garrison believed in Douglas and in his dream to end slavery. Garrison has used figurative language such as to describe Douglas and people could call his language over the top or extra but I think that Garrison wrote this preface from his heart, and he believed in every single word he used to describe Douglas. Garrison respected Douglas a lot, he had a very high regard of him. Garrison used direct characterization, diction, syntax, rhetorical questions, imagery, and figurative language in the preface to make the reader believe in the honesty and truthfulness of Frederick Douglas. This preface prepares the

reader for the narrative excellently; I got more interested in reading the narrative when I finished the preface.

The preface gives a trailer of what to expect in the Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, and American Slave.