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V. Beth Oualline  
Dr. Tayebi  
ENGL 5379-01  
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Annotated Bibliography

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Bracher, Mark. "Ideology and Audience Response to Death in Keats's 'To Autumn.'" *Studies in*

→ *Romanticism*, vol. 29, no. 4, 1990, pp. 633-655. *JSTOR*, [www.jstor.org/stable/25600872](http://www.jstor.org/stable/25600872).

→ Mark Bracher counters previous critics' ideological analyses of Keats' "To Autumn" by

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claiming that the true point of ideology lies not in factors such as distortion and elision but in the effects that these factors produce in human subjects. In order to prove his claim about the locus of ideology and move beyond a focus on cause and effect, Bracher applies reader-response analysis to the poem with attention to a collective reader consisting of a variety of perspectives that are shared among readers with no vested interest. To do this, he approaches the poem with a particularly psychoanalytic slant, exploring various aspects of Lacanian psychoanalysis experienced by the reader, including the symbolic order, the imaginary order, and desire for the Other. Bracher ultimately concludes that the significance of ideology in "To Autumn" lies in an attitude which rejects the mortality and suffering of the Real in order to transcend the Symbolic order and unify with the Other in the Imaginary order: the Romantic Ideology.

Buchsbaum, Betty. "Stevens and Keats' 'Easeful Death': A Revision of Youth by Old Age." *Wallace*

*Stevens Journal*, vol. 6, no. 3-4, 1982, pp. 87-98. *EBSCOhost*,

[ezproxy.shsu.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=mzh&AN=1983023639&site=ehost-live&scope=site](http://ezproxy.shsu.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=mzh&AN=1983023639&site=ehost-live&scope=site).

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Betty Buchsbaum explores the connection between two poems written by Keats two years before his death and a lyric written by Wallace Stevens three years before his death in order to show that the former's approach to death influenced the latter. Through her essay, Buchsbaum explores the idea of the "easeful death" expressed by both poets and the ways in which the two

poets speak to each other through their poetry. Buchsbaum eventually concludes that, despite the distinct contrast in age, both poets embraced their impending deaths through their poetry, though each embrace reflects a perspective unique to their age and experiences.

Faflak, Joel. "Keats and the Burden of Interminability." *Romantic Psychoanalysis: The Burden of the Mystery*. State University of New York P, 2008, pp. 199-231.

Joel Faflak argues that the Romantics invented psychoanalysis long before the big names of psychoanalysis of whom we commonly think when we use psychoanalysis as a basis for literary criticism. In this chapter, Faflak primarily discusses *The Fall of Hyperion*, though he does also discuss other Keats poems in his argument, in order to show that the Romantic exploration of the mind is much more that a precursor to a more sophisticated psychoanalytic study of the mind that will come later in history; the Romantics themselves, as evidenced by Keats' *Hyperion*, made significant psychoanalytic advances through their poetry. Faflak concludes the chapter by claiming that it is Romantics who first placed the subject in a position to contemplate identity and the psychic world.

Kappel, Andrew J. "The Immortality of the Natural: Keats' 'Ode to a Nightingale.'" *ELH*, vol. 45, no. 2, 1978, pp. 270-84. *JSTOR*, [www.jstor.org/stable/2872516](http://www.jstor.org/stable/2872516).

Kappel explains the arguments of past critics who had identified the immortality of the nightingale as either a generic immortality of the species or a symbolic immortality of the lyric that makes the poet immortal, and he counters those claims with a claim of his own: he argues for another aspect of the nightingale's immortality that distinctly separates it from human mortality. The primary focus of Kappel's argument is the seventh stanza of the poem, which he explains has led many critics to their varying interpretations of the nightingale's immortality. Kappel first clarifies the basis for immortality and then analyzes the seventh stanza in order to show how previous critics misjudged the structure of the stanza, which then led them to the conclusions that he now challenges. He concludes that it is the nature of the nightingale that is immortal for Keats.