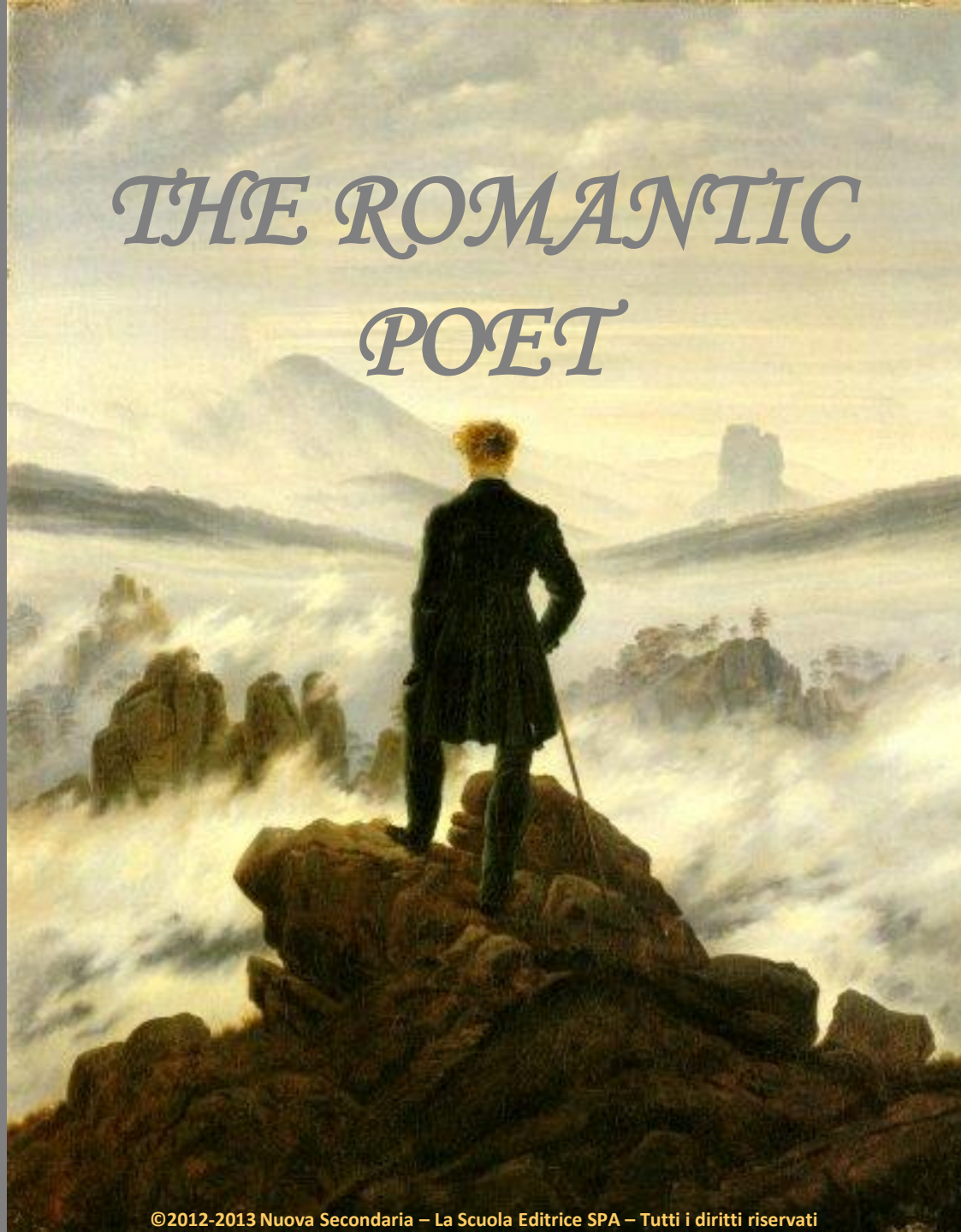


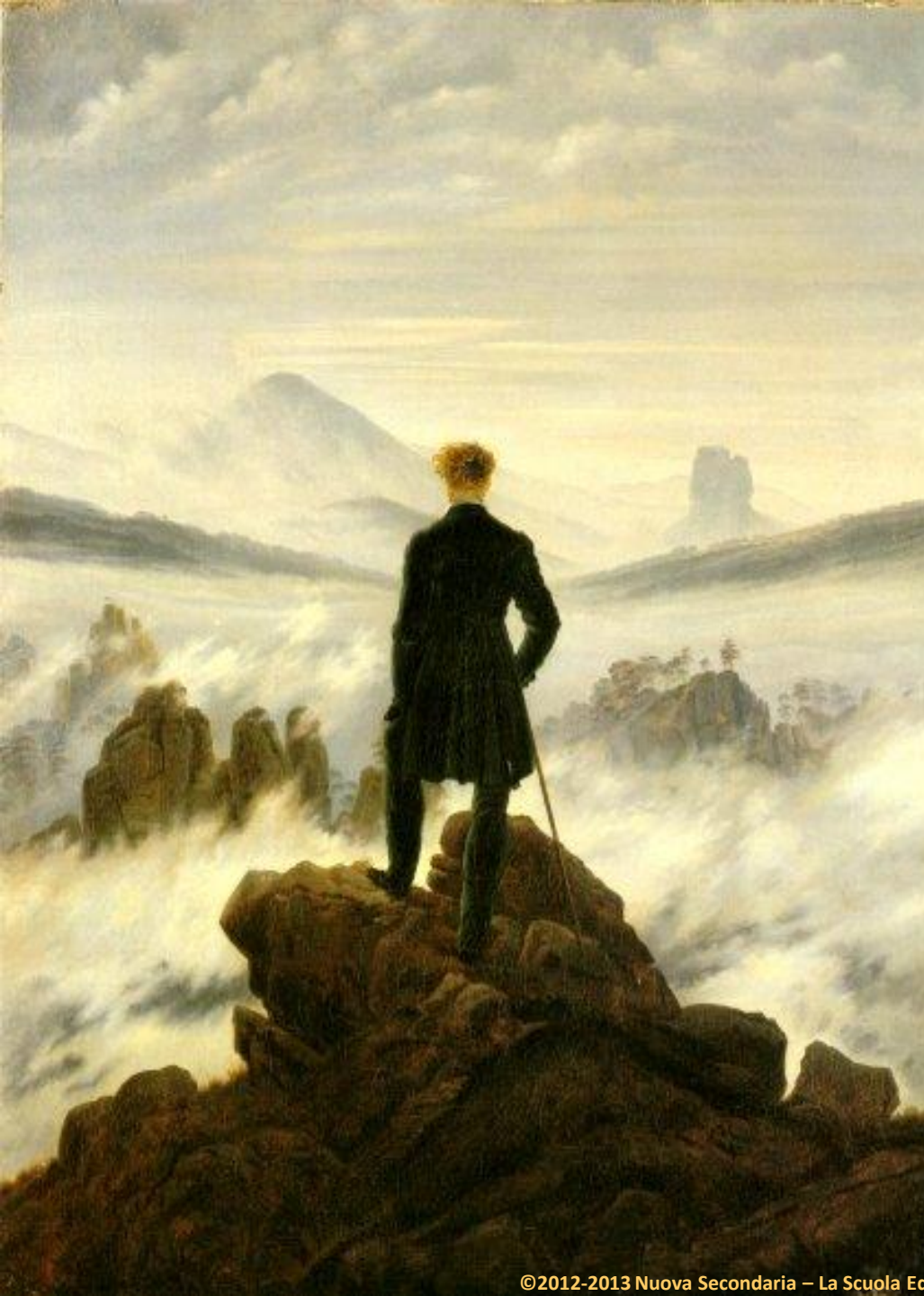
A Romantic-style painting of a forest scene. In the foreground, two figures, a man in a dark coat and hat and a woman in a long dress, stand on a rocky path, looking towards a bright, glowing orb (sun or moon) in the distance. A large, gnarled tree with bare branches dominates the right side of the frame. The background shows a misty, hazy landscape with more trees and a small waterfall. The overall mood is mysterious and sublime.

THE ROMANTIC AGE

THEMES AND AUTHORS
(1798 – 1830)

THE ROMANTIC POET



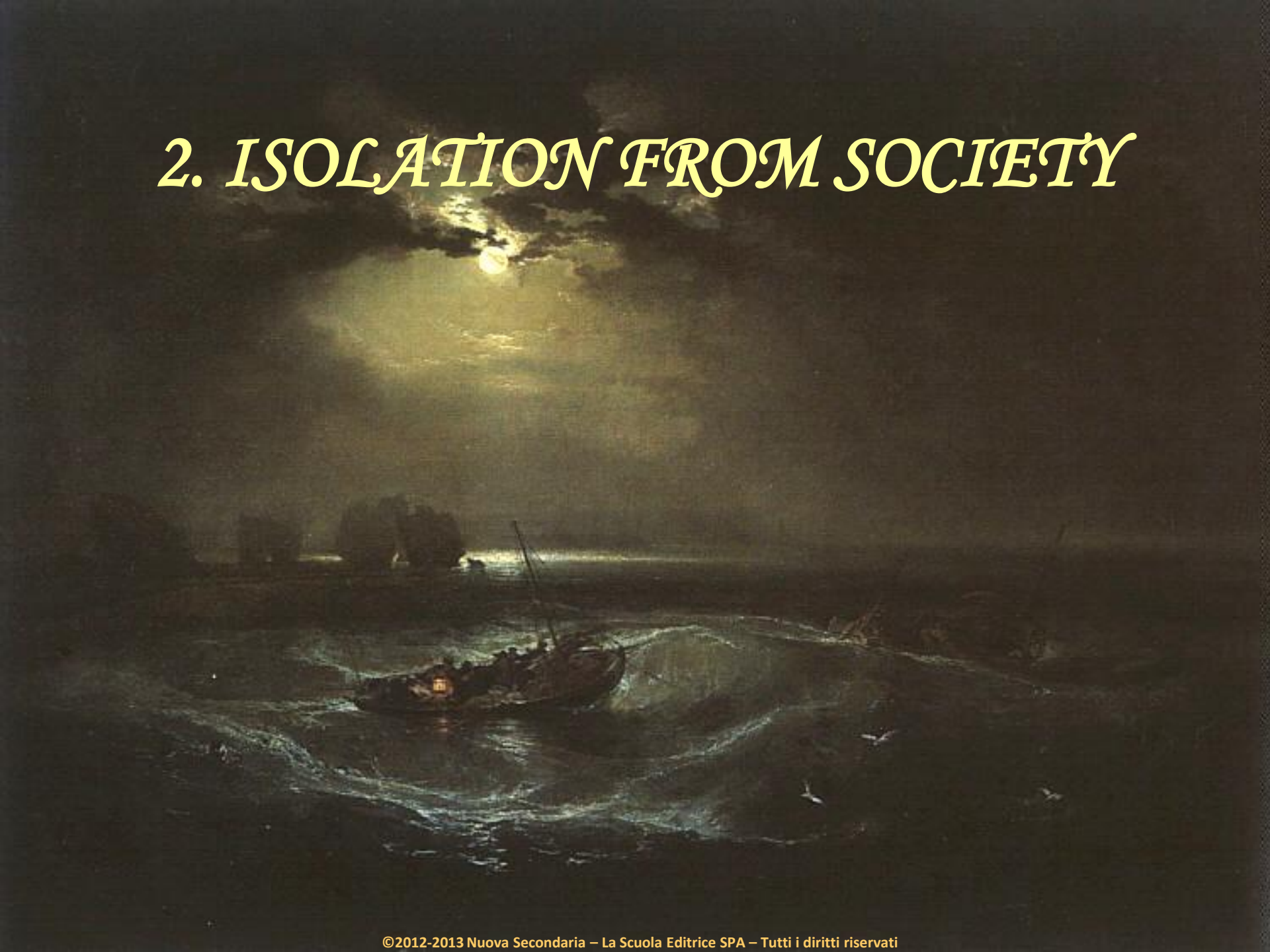


THE MAIN FEATURES:

1. INDIVIDUALISM

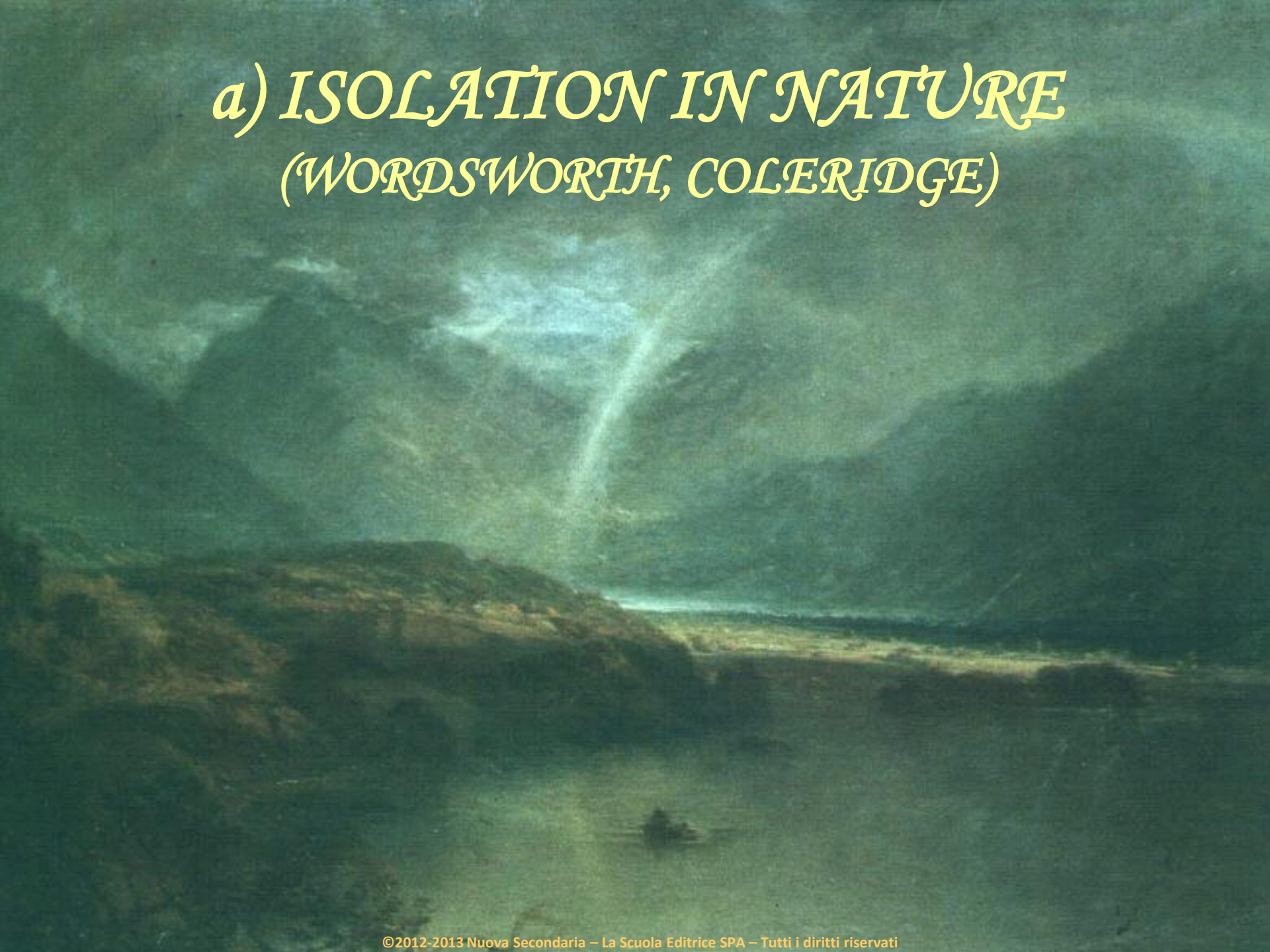
- *Introspection = the tendency to look inside his soul*
- *The tension between the REAL and the IDEAL (Streben) = man's desires are infinite and for the Infinite*
- *Sehensucht = nothing can fulfil man's desire > melancholy and dissatisfaction*
- *Subjectiveness = the cult of feelings*

2. ISOLATION FROM SOCIETY



a) ISOLATION IN NATURE

(WORDSWORTH, COLERIDGE)





6) *ESCAPE INTO HISTORY, FOLKLORE and CLASSICISM* (KEATS)


*“A thing of beauty is a joy
forever” (Keats)*

*“Beauty is truth, truth is beauty,
- that is all /we know on earth,
and all we need to know”*

- *“Then on the shore / Of a wide world I stand alone,
and think/ Till love and fame to nothingness do
sink.” (Keats)*

*c) EXILE (Shelley, Byron)
AND THE EXOTIC (Coleridge)*





• *“But in Man’s dwellings
he became a thing/
Restless and worn, and
stern and wearisome”
(Byron)*

• *“Self-exiled Harold
wanders forth again, / With
nought of hope left, but
with less of gloom” (Byron)*



d) REVOLT
(Blake, Shelley)



*“In every cry of
every Man,/In
every Infant’s cry
of fear, / In every
voice, in every ban,
/ The mind-frog’d
manacles I hear”
(Blake)*

3. THE POET AS A PROPHET



a) His MISSION:

to awaken awareness: about

- *the infinite potential of human beings (streben)*
- *the healing qualities of nature which has a living soul*

• *“...pleased to recognise/ In nature and in the
language of she sense/ The anchor of my purest
thoughts, the nurse,/ The guide, the guardian of my
heart, and soul/ Of all my moral being.”*

(Wordsworth)

• *“Poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful
feelings” (Wordsworth)*




6) IMAGINATION:

source of the creative process

- *it allows the poet to recreate and modify the external world of experience*
- *poetry helps mankind to understand the Mystery beyond the Real and to bear the sorrow of life*
- *“We see into the life of things”
(Wordsworth)*
- *“Imagination dissolves, diffuses, dissipates, in order to re-create (...) to idealize, to unify” (Coleridge)*





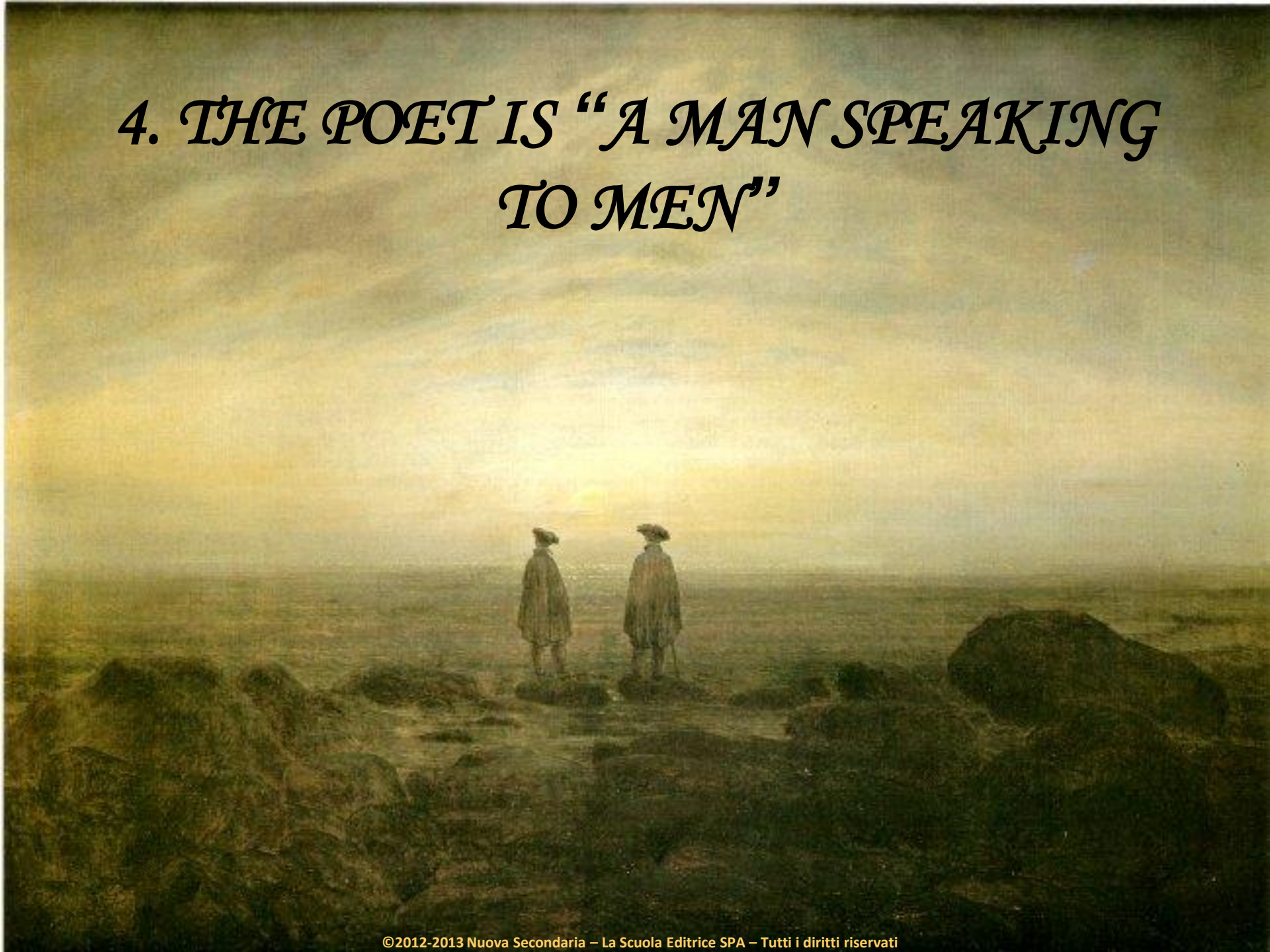
- *“Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world”*

- *“Poetry turns all things to loveliness; it exalts the beauty of that which is most beautiful, and it adds beauty to that which is most deformed”*

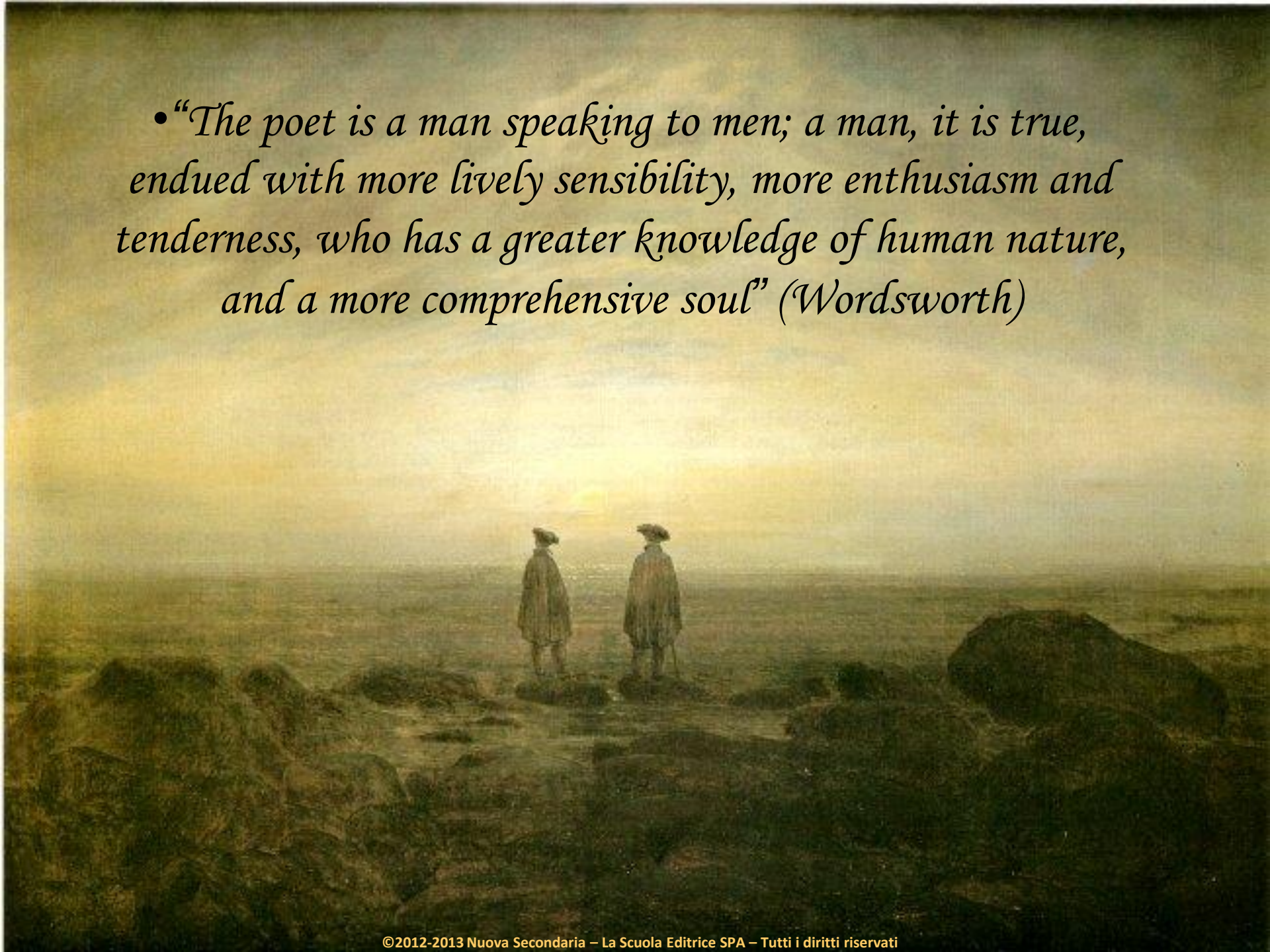
- *“Poetry thus makes immortal all that is best and most beautiful in the world”*

• *“Poetry redeems from decay the visitations of the divinity in Man”*
(Shelley)

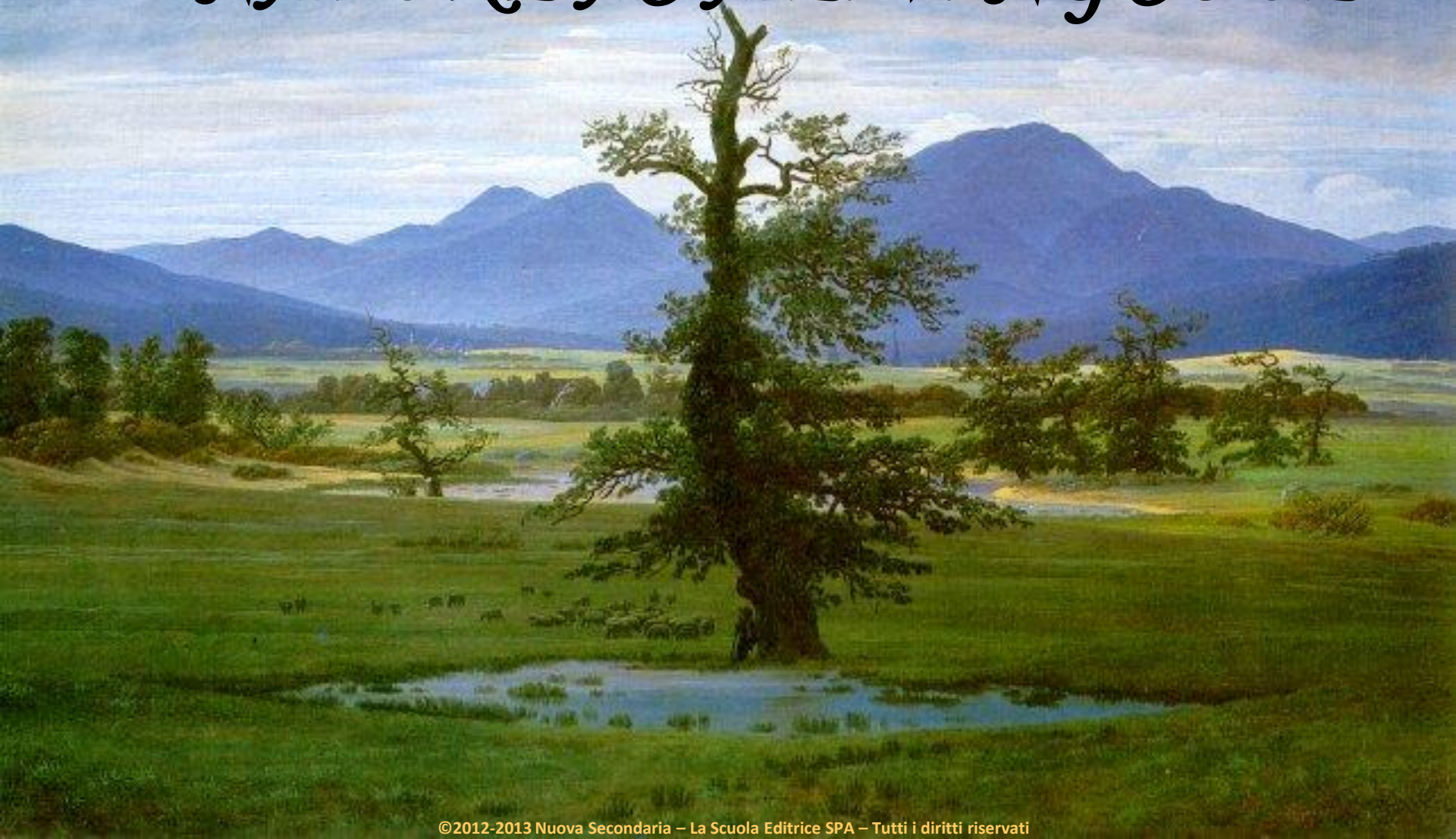
4. THE POET IS “A MAN SPEAKING TO MEN”



• *“The poet is a man speaking to men; a man, it is true, endued with more lively sensibility, more enthusiasm and tenderness, who has a greater knowledge of human nature, and a more comprehensive soul” (Wordsworth)*



NATURE AS A LIVING SOUL



1. THE MIRROR OF THE SELF

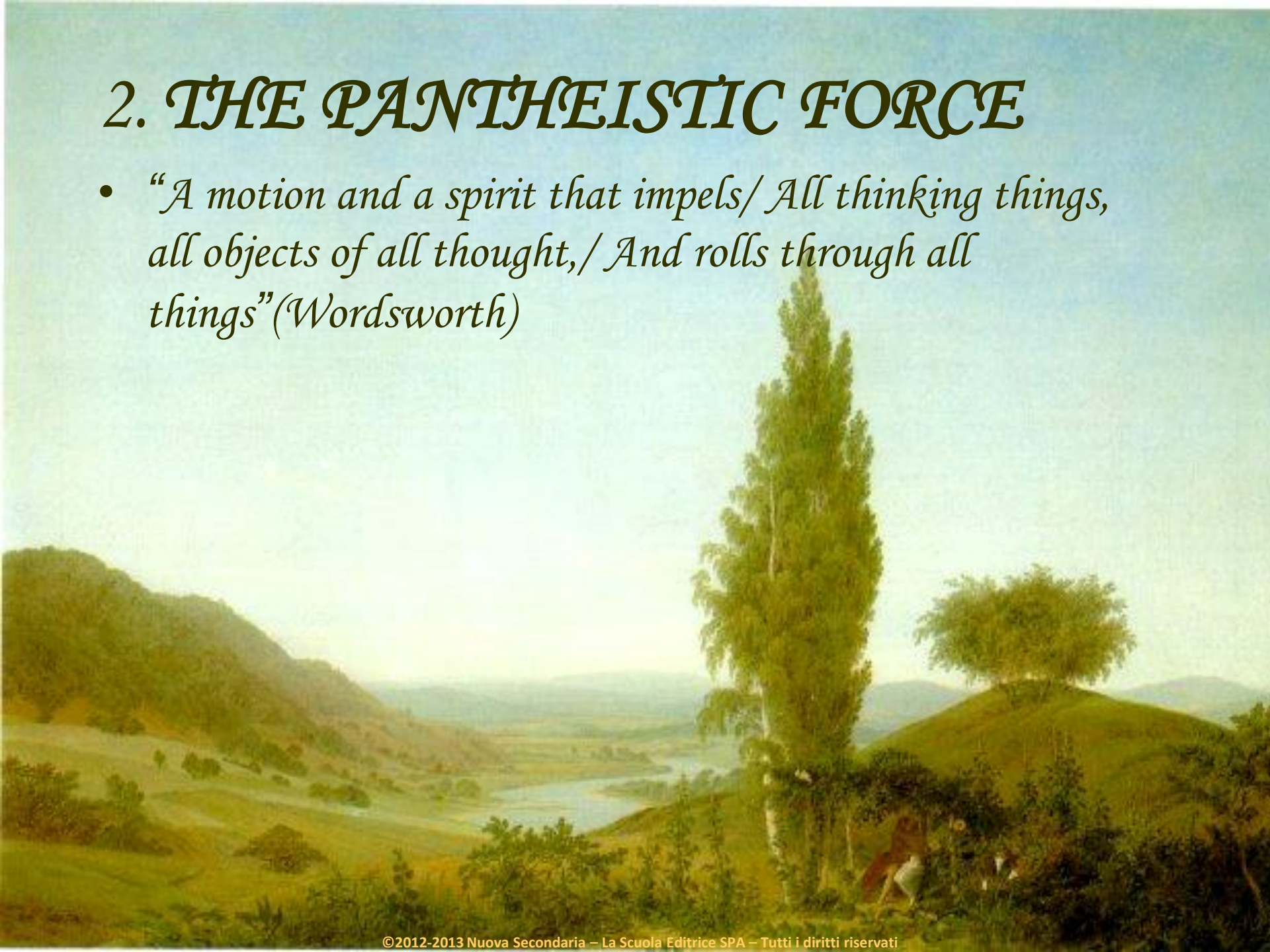
- *“For I am as a weed,/ Flung from the rock, on Ocean’s foam, to sail/ Wherever the surge may sweep, or tempest’s breath prevail.” (Byron)*

- *“And then my heart with pleasure fills,/ And dances with the daffodils” (Wordsworth)*

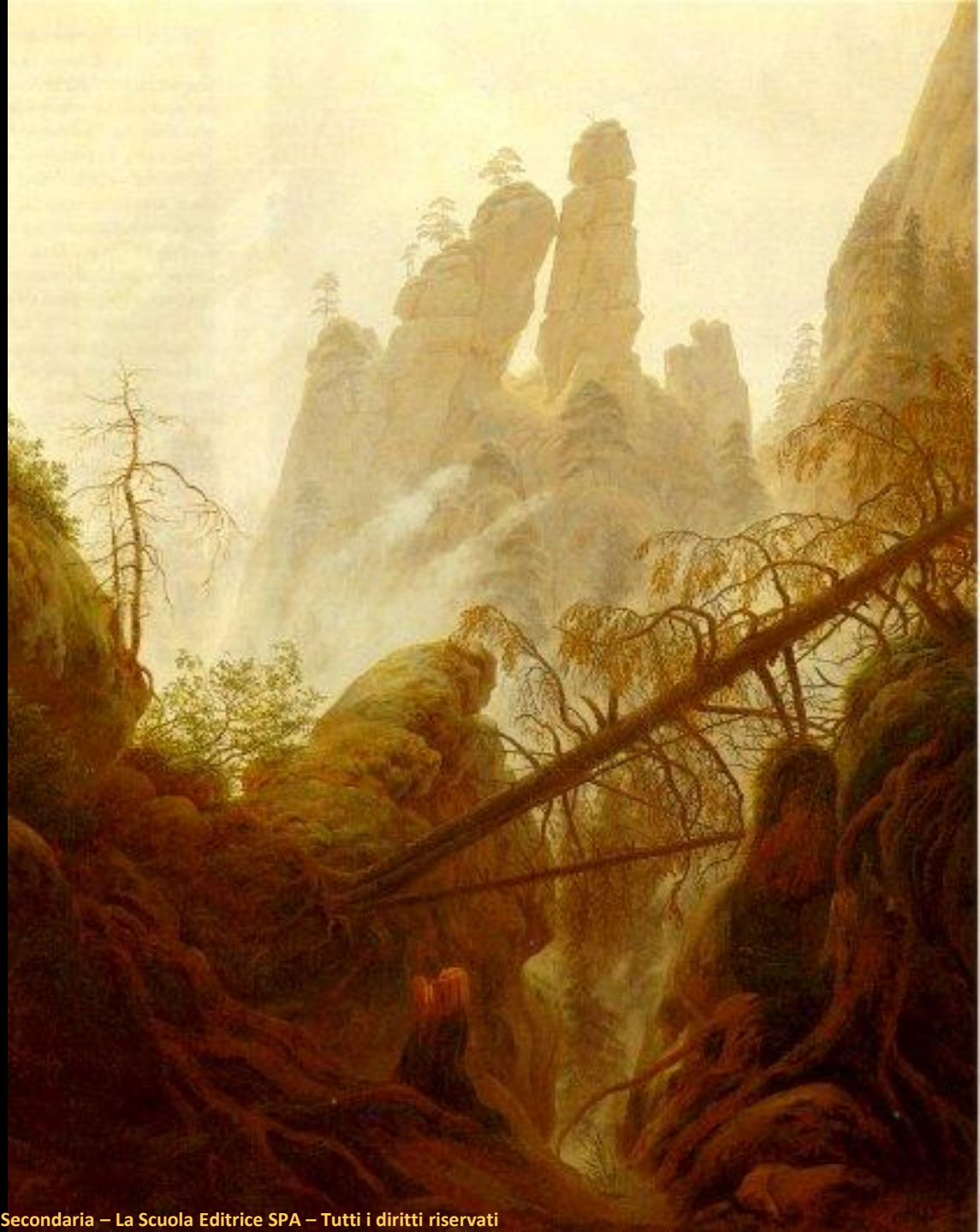


2. *THE PANTHEISTIC FORCE*

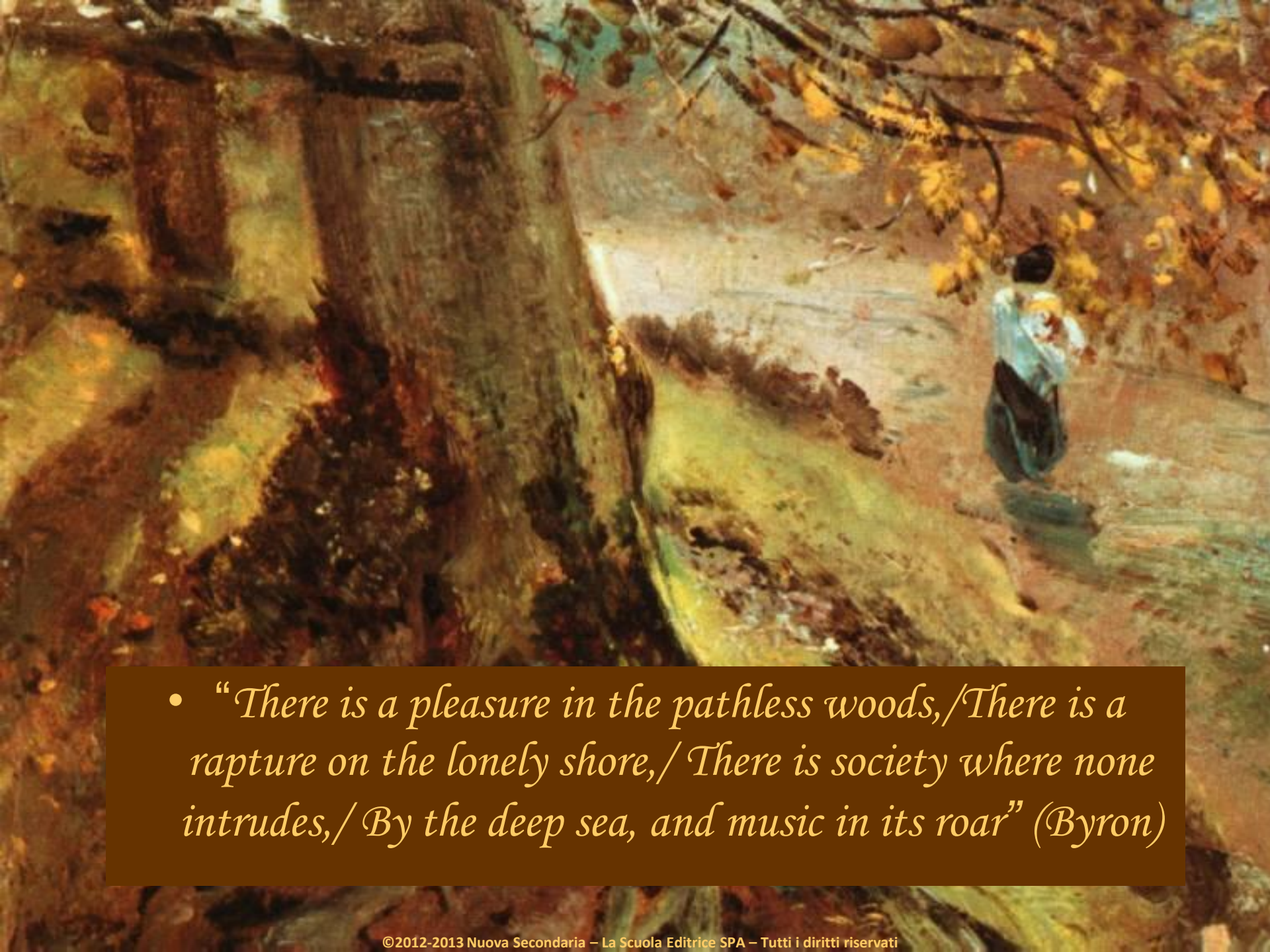
- *“A motion and a spirit that impels/ All thinking things,
all objects of all thought,/ And rolls through all
things” (Wordsworth)*



*3. THE
NATURAL
SUBLIME
(Byron + Coleridge)*



- *“Where rose the mountains, there to him were friends; / Where roll’d the ocean, there on was his home; / Where a blue sky, and glowing clime, extends, / He had the passion and the power to roam; / The desert, forest, cavern, breaker’s foam, / Were unto him companionship;” (Byron)*

- 
- A painting of a person in a forest. The person is standing on a path, looking down at the ground. The forest is dense with trees and foliage, and the lighting is soft and dappled. The person is wearing a light-colored shirt and dark pants. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.
- *“There is a pleasure in the pathless woods,/There is a rapture on the lonely shore,/ There is society where none intrudes,/ By the deep sea, and music in its roar” (Byron)*

CHILDHOOD





1. THE IDEAL STAGE OF MAN'S LIFE (Wordsworth + Blake)



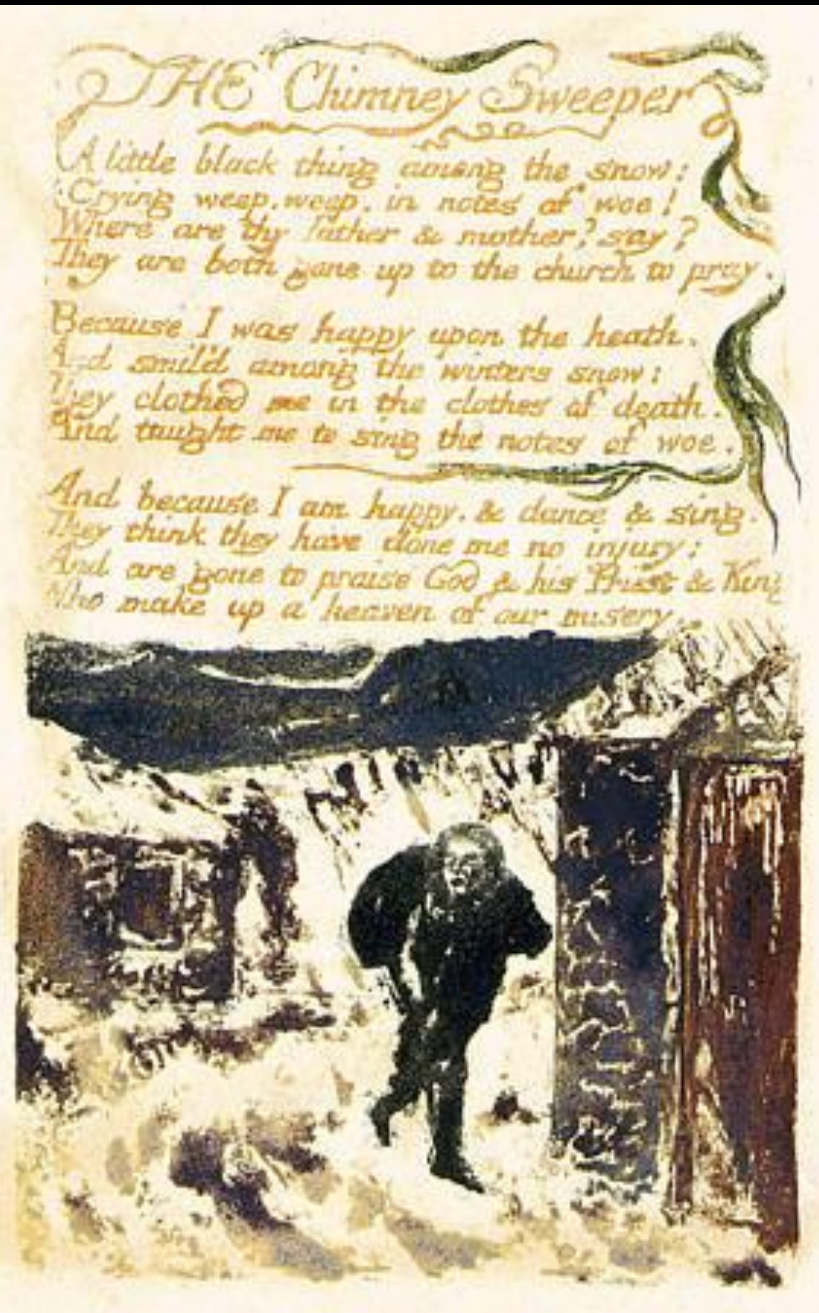
- *“The Child is father of the Man”
(Wordsworth)*

- *“For nature then/ To me
was all in all”
(Wordsworth)*



2. CLOSER TO GOD

3. THE VICTIM OF SOCIETY



- “They clothed me in the cloth of death/ And taught me to sing the notes of woe” (Blake)

THE END

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Liceo Scientifico Blaise Pascal - Busto Arsizio (Varese)

