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## "Rills: a Map of a Misreading"

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Oral Presentation O4.2

**"RILLS: A MAP OF A MISREADING"**

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“Rills: A Map of a Misreading” is the first in a collection of essays that explore multiple ways of reading and responding to the works of the British Romantics. This essay merges a personal and critical approach to Samuel Taylor Coleridge’s “Kubla Khan” and shows my resulting realization of the rewards such a reading can offer. I use a personal reaction to a small detail in order to arrive at a fuller understanding of the poem. When my misreading is corrected and the image that had been the basis of my love of the poem changed, I am able, with the aid of the theories of Coleridge, Shelley, and Wordsworth regarding the imagination, to perceive the full extent of my imagination’s workings and come to appreciate them more fully, as these and other Romantic writers did. This experience mirrors the very act of imaginative creation that the poem portrays, and it allows me to engage with the poem on a new level.