The AI Imagination

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Abstract:

The aim of this paper is to reflect the idea of how "AI" imagines the literary language and can create the images by understanding words. This paper comparatively reflects the idea of "Imagist Movement" and how AI imaginations lacks ability to understand words to create, yet is challenging to compare its ability with human intelligence. This paper is an attempt to compare and contrast how human mind imagines any movement, idea, place, circumstances or art form versus how AI imagines it.

Key-Words:

Imagination, Human, AI, creation, Images, Intelligence

Introduction:

The concept of "Imagination" is broadly connected with experience of the world, people and ourselves. Through emotions, feelings and desires people imagine the world in different ways, this imagination is the vehicle for the people to engage with the world. Imagination is a creative capacity to experience the world in a different way, in the form of images.

"Imagination is the capacity to image in a creative whole-seeking way. And in doing so to perceive the oneness of the universe" - S.T. Coleridge

"Imagination is a 'vital' force that 'Dissolves, Diffuses, and Dissipates' in order to re-create" - S.T. Coleridge

"Imagination is more important than knowledge, knowledge is limited, Imagination encircles the world" - Albert Einstein

"Literature speaks the language of the imagination, and the study of literature is supposed to train and improve the imagination" - Northrop Frye

S.T. Coleridge, Einstein, Northrop Frye and other scholars give the definition of "Imagination", they define imagination as something beyond knowledge and how human mind automatically captures the ideas, thoughts, Art forms, and imagines in a different way. Imagination is the operating of our perception, thoughts, and feelings. Even our culture, our place, human

experience, natural environment, and Art forms are shaped by the human feelings and the human imagination.

While "Artificial Intelligence's Imagination" is based-on data science and technologies. AI follows the algorithms and it reflects different kind of imaginative ideas. AI captures the specific words and generalises them and creates a picture. Here are some of the examples that compare and contrast the human imagination and AI imagination.

Mourning picture:
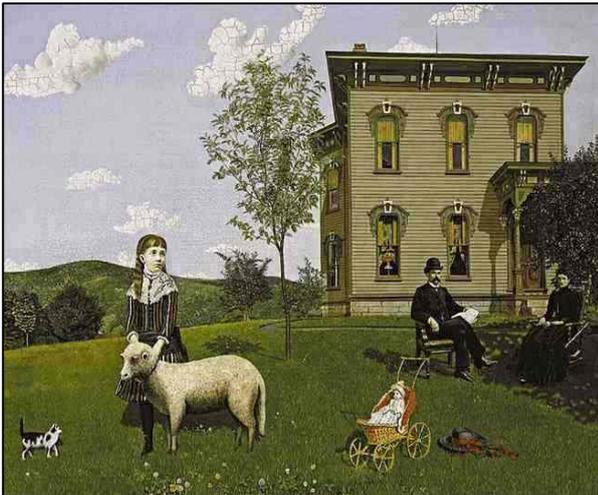
Mourning Picture, Edwin Romanzo Elmer (1890)   Created by AI

In the original painting of American artist Edwin Romanzo Elmer Shows himself, his wife Mary and their late daughter Effie standing with a pet sheep in front of the house, Effie's toys are kind of scattered out on the grass and in the background her parents are sitting outside in the chairs and they are fully dressed in black Mourning cloths. After the death of Edwin's daughter, he creates this painting for his own sake to remember his daughter. Adrienne Rich wrote the poem with same title "Mouring Picture". When we see the painting, we don't get the feeling of loss or sadness, its looks like a family sitting outside with their daughter on a pretty day but once we read the poem by Rich, the view changes. The poem brings the story of this painting to life; it gives one the dark element that complements the title, and portrays the hidden meaning. The poem is told from the point view of Effie. She is talking as if she is present there, but she is dead and is also reflecting, living through the present but also she is dead and is still laying on the ground out side of their house. Knowing that Effie has passed away and her parents dressed in their black attire, her parents are not even looking in the direction that she is in, as they darkly sit there avoiding any association with their daughter and the remembrance of her.

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Mourning Picture

They have carried the mahogany chair and the cane rocker
out under the lilac bush,
and my father and mother darkly sit there, in black clothes.
Our clapboard house stands fast on its hill,
my doll lies in her wicker pram
gazing at western Massachusetts.
This was our world.
I could remake each shaft of grass
feeling its rasp on my fingers,
draw out the map of every lilac leaf
or the net of veins on my father's
grief-tranced hand.
Out of my head, half-bursting,
still filling, the dream condenses—
shadows, crystals, ceilings, meadows, globes of dew.
Under the dull green of the lilacs, out in the light
carving each spoke of the pram, the turned
porch-pillars,
under high early-summer clouds,
I am Effie visible and invisible,
remembering and remembered.

Adrienne Rich

When the poem was given to AI, it wasn't able to understand the emotions behind the poem and painting. Edwin created the painting with the different purpose to remember his daughter and how they feel about their dead daughter and they live in the darkness. Rich also wrote the poem from the point of view of Edwin's daughter Effie. Rich gives the description in a deep way but still AI is not able to imagine the purpose of painting and poem. AI captures the words like chair, father and mother, black cloths, grass, green of the lilacs and creates the image of just old father and mother who wear the black cloths and old man reads the newspaper while in the poem there is a no description about the newspaper. And in the poem, there is one line "I am Effie visible and invisible", here AI creates the image without Effie. While in a painting Effie is present but her father and mother did not see in that direction because in real life she is gone. AI is not able to understand the suffering of Effie's parents. Rich wrote the poem because she connects her own emotions with Edwin's painting and she feels the suffering of the artist and writes the poem from Effie's perspective to give reader an understanding of the human emotions. When Rich saw the painting, she could imagine the suffering of the artist and his daughter and purpose of the painting, while AI created the description of the image with lack of the human imagination and emotions. AI just captures the words and by the words collects some of the images from the internet data and creates its own image.
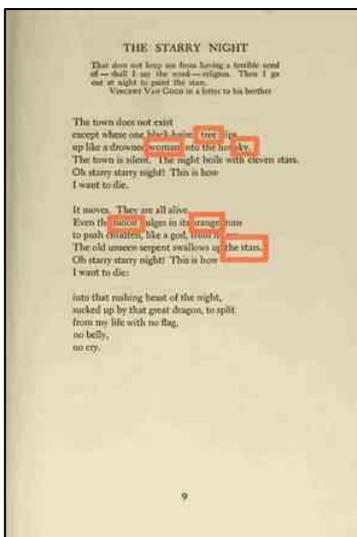
Starry Night:

Vincet Van Gogh's famous Starry Night is a combination of Emotion, Mood, Tone, Light, Color and Imagination. Van Gogh's choice of color in Starry Night has been much debated, particularly the attention to the sky. Some believe Van Gogh may have been suffering from lead poisoning or a type of brain disease and that explains his strange use of color in Starry Night and later paintings, and choice of dark blues and green were complemented with touches of mint green showing the reflection of the moon. Van Gogh's passion for nighttime is evident in the Starry Night painting where the powerful sky sits above the quite down. It seems that Van Gogh is contrasting life and death with luminous stars and gloomily fearful village. In a letter to his

brother Theo, Van Gogh comments "*I should not be surprised if you liked the Starry Night and ploughed field, there is a greater quite about them than in other canvases*". Ann Sexton wrote the poem with same title after seeing the Starry Night painting. Sexton's poem is rich with imagery and emotion. Sexton's style is loose and metaphorical which emulates Van Gogh's loose emotive painting style. She uses a great deal of figurative language to describe the stars, the sky and the moon round them. The purpose of the poem is to allude the troubles the painter experienced in his life and perhaps in sexton's own life too.
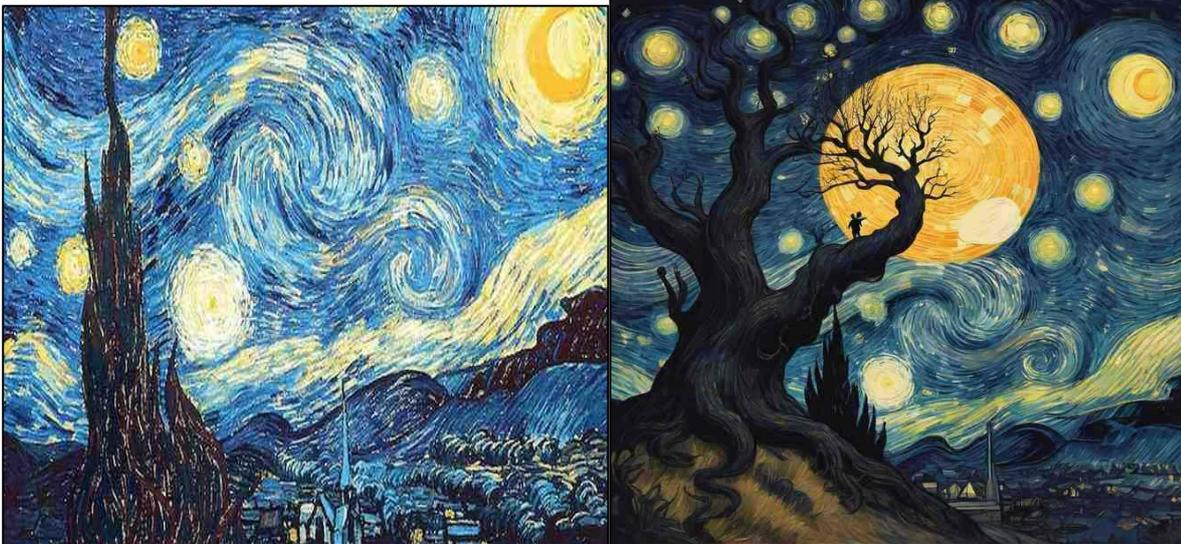
The Starry Night, Van Gogh (1889)   Created by AI

Here, AI creates the image with the help of Ann Sexton's poem Starry Night. AI creates the image like the Starry Night but without understanding the emotion or the idea behind the painting and poem, AI just captures the words like Moon, Star, Sky, Night, Tree, Woman and creates the picture even though in the original painting woman is not standing on a tree but AI creates the image with the woman standing on tree. Even without seeing the painting alongside if you can imagine the scene that Ann Sexton is contemplating, we can understand the suffering and emotions and the imagination of both the artists, even we also connect our feelings too. AI

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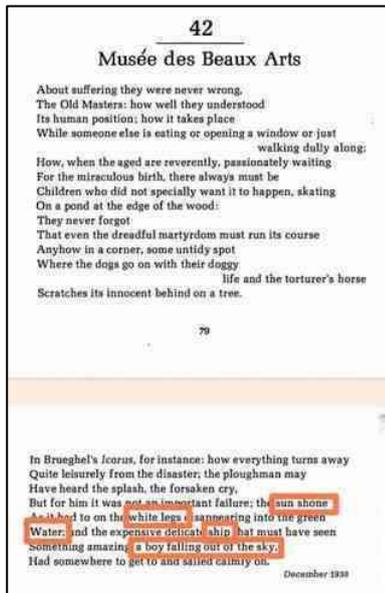
tries to create the image with uses of same color and shades but AI is not able to understand the suffering of Van Gogh and Ann Sexton. When Ann Sexton sees the painting, she connects herself with painting and Van Gogh's suffering and wrote the poem.

The Fall of Icarus:

The painting 'Landscape with the Fall of Icarus' by Peter Bruegel is a true masterpiece. This painting featuring a subject from Greek mythology, depicts the hero described by Ovid in his *Metamorphoses.* Brughel has taken the mythological story of Icarus as the base idea or root idea of his painting. However in the painting, only legs of Icarus can be seen desperately flailing in the air. In the bottom right-hand corner of the painting, Icarus surrounded by a fine spray of water, has just fallen into the water. Around him the rest of the world remains unperturbed, as if unaffected by his fall. In the painting's foreground, without a care for Icarus a ploughman steers his plough with one hand and holds a whip in the other. As his face is almost entirely hidden, and he will not stop for the dying Icarus. In the background there is one ship and fisherman also, but they do their own work and they don't help Icarus and they ignored Icarus. This painting inspired many poets, among which is W.H.Auden, who described the painting in his famous poem *"Musee des Beaux-Arts"*. In the poem Auden talks about how suffering can be occurring quite close by and be far beyond what anyone sees. The disaster which the speaker describes is that of Icarus falling from the sky into the ocean. There might be someone in the scene who heard the "splash" or the cry, such as the "ploughman" but he does not react if that is the case. Auden describes how sun shines on all parts of the scene equally. It warms the sea, the ploughman, and the "white legs" which have just recently disappeared "into the green". This paints a picture of the world being without mercy or sympathy. There is no change, even momentarily.

Landscape with the Fall of Icarus, Pieter Bruegel the Elder (1558)   Created by AI

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Musée des Beaux Arts

About suffering they were never wrong,
The Old Masters: how well they understood
Its human position; how it takes place
While someone else is eating or opening a window or just
                                        walking dully along;
How, when the aged are reverently, passionately waiting
For the miraculous birth, there always must be
Children who did not specially want it to happen, skating
On a pond at the edge of the wood:
They never forgot
That even the dreadful martyrdom must run its course
Anyhow in a corner, some untidy spot
Where the dogs go on with their doggy
                                        life and the torturer's horse
Scratches its innocent behind on a tree.

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In Brueghel's *Icarus*, for instance: how everything turns away
Quite leisurely from the disaster; the ploughman may
Have heard the splash, the forsaken cry,
But for him it was not an important failure; the sun shone
As it had to on the white legs disappearing into the green
Water; and the expensive delicate ship that must have seen
Something amazing, a boy falling out of the sky,
Had somewhere to get to and sailed calmly on.

December 1938

When the poem's second stanza given to the AI (because Auden gave the description of Icarus in the second stanza), AI creates the image of Icarus but here AI is not able to understand the idea behind the painting and even it is not understand the language of the poem too. AI captures some of the words successfully like Sun, Water, Ship, A boy falling out of the sky and create the image of Icarus with the wings while in the poem Auden has not mentioned the word "wings" , perhaps here we can say that in AI's data there is a picture of the Icarus and AI knows about the story of Icarus because AI takes the data from the internet and that's why AI imagines Icarus with wings but still isn't able to understand the poetic language and the Art form. In the poem Auden also mentioned *" The white legs disappearing into the green water",* but still AI creates the image of the a whole body of Icarus with the wings. Here we have to observes the thing that AI became confused while understanding the language because Auden writes in the last line *"A boy falling out of the sky"* and AI captured that line and not the white legs disappearing into the green water and AI imagines it in a different way. It is not able to understand the ideology of Bruegel's painting and Auden's poem. The painting and poem reflect the modern world, people are suffering in pain and they are in a problem but no one notices them and no one helps them, they are ignored by everyone as all are busy in their own work. This painting and poem are gives us a better understanding and message of "Suffering"and the AI is not able to understand the emotion and can't give us the proper understanding.

The Hunters in the Snow:

Bruegel's breathtaking panoramic painting 'The Hunter in the Snow', also known as "The Return of the Hunter" shows a scene set in harshest winter. The weary hunters of the title are returning home at the end of a disappointing hunt. The overall visual impression is one of a calm, cold, overcast day, the colors are muted whites and grays, the tress are bare of leaves, and wood smoke hangs in the air. Several adults and a child are preparing food with an outside fire. The crows are sitting in the trees, and the vivid imagery of a valley. Bruegel's painting also suggests motion and life in process. William Carlos Williams inspired by the painting and wrote the poem with same title "Hunter in the snow" and William depicts in his poem the exact

scenario playing in Bruegel's painting. In the poem William also gave the detailed description of the painting in his poem like winter, hunter, nature, hills, a woman and without seeing the painting when we read the poem of William, that image exactly creates the Bruegel's painting.

Hunters in the Snow, Pieter Bruegel the Elder (1565)   Created by AI

But AI creates a different image. A hunter who sits on a 'Reindeer' while in the poem there is no description of reindeer and even though in the painting Bruegel doesn't draw a reindeer.

Diana and Actaeon:

Titian's painting depicts a scene between Diana and Actaeon from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. It shows the moment of accidental discovery as Actaeon, after a day's hunting wants to find a quite resting place, when he comes upon the gatto with its secret pool, and finds the astonishing presence of the naked Diana bathing with her nymphs. The outraged goddess splashes his head with water and curses him, transforming him into the stage who, now without human language, will be chased across the forest and torn apart by his own hounds. Titian just draws the painting of an accidental discovery of a Actaeon. George Szirtes wrote a poem on this painting; the poem is told from the point of view of Actaeon.

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Diana and Actaeon, Titian (1556-59)   AI won't be able to create image

When we gave the same poem to AI, it is not able to create the image of the painting. It's difficult for the AI to create pictures of Diana and Actaeon. Even AI is not able to understand the meaning of the poem and painting. For the AI it seems creating the image of naked Diana is a negative thing. It captures the words like that is a negative thing without knowing about the story and emotion and rejects the idea of imagining the poem's description and the painting's idea.

"Painting is mute poetry, poetry a speaking picture" (Plutarch) this quote gives us a deeper understanding of imagination, how humans show any Art work and creates the image from their artistic thoughts and creates their own ideology to understand the world in their own way. By the examples we understand that how humans are able to understand the emotions, thought process, imagination, any situation and behind the idea of any art works. Humans are connected to their own thoughts about the place, situation and any art forms and imagines them in a different way. By this paper we observed that how humans are connected with the culture, art, language and creates paintings and poems, novels or any art forms. S.T. Coleridge talks about humans having two imaginations "primary" and "secondary". David Hume writes *The imagination of man is naturally sublime, delighted with whatever is remote and extraordinary, and running, without*

control, into the most distant parts of space and time in order to avoid the objects, which custom has rendered too familiar to it." Human mind imagines the things in a broader sense without control, without any command.

AI's imagination is narrow, limited and gives us a general idea. AI generates, simulates, and facilitates possible fiction models to create the general idea. No doubt AI helps us to develop new images and idea through the database but it isn't able to understand the situation, idea, emotion and experience of any art form. We cannot say that AI can't imagine the things but AI does not give us the better understanding because of the lack of Emotions, Experience, circumstances and suffering. AI won't be able to understand why Edwin created the painting of his daughter Effie and they both are sitting on a chair and wears the black cloths however Rich connects her feelings with the painting and wrote the poem, why Van Gogh uses the only yellow and blue shades and creates the picture of night with stars and Sexton matches her vibes with the painting and Van Gogh and wrote poem, and why Bruegel creates the painting of the Hunter in the Snow. AI can't understand the hidden idea of the Bruegel's Fall of Icarus, and Titian's Diana and Actaeon painting. And through the poem Auden and Szirtes gives us a better understanding. AI just captures the words and create the images. All these paintings and poems have their own story, Artist reflects their suffering, imagination and emotions in their works and gives us the deeper understanding.

Conclusion:

AI captures the specific words, generalizes them and creates the image with the lack of the emotion, experience and circumstances. Even AI isn't able to understand some of the words and imagine them, AI rejects the idea of the some of the works. Humans give the command to the AI and then AI creates the picture. The idea of this paper is not to imply that AI is not imagining anything, but without command AI isn't able to create any image. Even when we gave the command to the AI still it is not able to imagine the emotions and hidden ideas of the thoughts, it gives us the image but not the understanding. While human mind creates the image through situation, thought process, moods and feelings. And AI isn't able to understand "Feelings", "Moods" and "Emotions". Human imagination is shaped by the culture, language, tradition, place etc. and through the imagination they shape the cultural, ideological world and gives us a better understanding. AI does not have the brain that can generate thoughts and idea in the same way humans can do.

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