「船出」における死テーマの分類

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A Classified List of Death Theme
in "The Voyage Out"

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V・ウルフの処女作「船出」には、彼女の心を示めるさまざまなテーマが散在している。死テーマは、その中でも最も明確な彼女の主題の一つである。これは、作品「船出」において、ウルフの死に関係があると考えられる重要な語句、文章をselectし、これらを大きく14の項目に分類したものである。

ウルフの死を論ずるための材料の一部を得ようというのがこの研究の目的である。筆者の最初の意図は、もっと深層部における死テーマをさがしして分類するつもりであったが、作品を読んでいくうちに、このように、つかない分類に終わってしまった。それは、筆者の作品鑑賞力の乏しさに加えて、伝統的な形式によって書かれた末だ本格的にその主題が表れていないと考えられるこの作品自体にその一因があるのではなかろうか。ともかく、かかる分類の最初の試みとして、きわめて不充分なものである。

テキストは、Hogarth Press 1957年版を使用した。

末尾の（）内の数字は、上記テキストの頁数を表わす。代名詞のうち、特に必要と思われるものには、指示する対象物を代名詞等の直後に指標した。また、殆どのものを、筆者の独断により、一項目に属せしめたが、止むなく二項目にわたるものは、その旨明記した。テキスト中の引用詩の中には、ウルフの死テーマに関係深いと思われるものが少しあるが、これらについては分類を行なわなかった。

1. LIFE AND DEATH

The sea might give her (ship) death, or some unexampled joy, (29)
I always think it's living, not dying, that counts. (62)
They (stockbrokers) seem to me really nobler than poets whom every one worships,
just because they're geniuses and die young. (62)
It's not cowardly to wish to live, (455)
It's (to wish to live) the very reverse of cowardly. (455)
I'd like go on for a hundred years. (455)
That's the tragedy of life—beginning things and having to end them. (87)
It (life) was only a light passing over the surface and vanishing, as in time she would vanish, (145)
It's an agony, living, wanting—(321)
This body of his unreal; the whole world was unreal. (345)
They prefer it (anything that happens) to be death—(378)
Disastrous would have been the result if a fire or a death had suddenly demanded
something heroic of human nature, (136)
Her mind occupied itself with......such as old age and poverty and death. (340)
Directly anything happens—it may be a marriage, or a birth, or a death. (378)
...eating away the lives of men and women. (421)
It (death) seems so inexplicable. (422)
Why should she be dead, and not you or I? (422)

2. HATRED FOR DEATH

Fear of Being Killed
It was in danger of being crushed like an egg-shell. (6)
She (a lady of eighty five) had a horror of being buried alive. (427)

Fear of Downfall
On a dark night one would fall down these stairs head foremost and be killed. (7)
...the piano would come through the floor, (14)
When they see us falling out of aeroplanes... (155)

Fear or Hatred for Death
It would be awful—to be dead! (170)
Would you care for anythin’ but savin’ yourself? (335)
Are you afraid of dyin’? (454)
I think we are all afraid of that. (dying) (455)
We are all cowards when it comes to the point. (455)
Not that I look forward to being dead. (171)
They (Rachel’s aunts) do mind when people die. (259)
She hated death. (438)
She was furious, outraged, indignant with death. (438)
She refused to relinquish her friends to death. (438)
She would not submit to dark and nothingness. (under DARK AND NOTHINGNESS also) (438)
She thought of all that she would have missed had she died at Rachel’s age. (439)
I couldn’t bear to die and cease to see beautiful things about me. (455)
It would certainly be very dull to die before they have discovered whether there is life in Mars. (455)
Don’t talk of it! (the death of a dog) It’s a thing I can’t bear to think of to this day. (59)
They ought not to have died. (213)
She (Rachel) ought not to have died. (441)
He could not let her die. (425)
I’m positive Rachel’s not dead. (442)
...let loose a small bird which some ruffian had trapped. (39)

3. DESIRE FOR DEATH

Death Not Being Feared
At their age one wouldn’t mind being killed in the night? (14)
To be dead? I don’t think it would be awful. (170)
I assure you there’s nothing horrible about it. (death) (170)
She could die. (424)
He did not mind if she died. (426)
She had ceased to breathe. It (death) was nothing; it was to cease to breathe. (431)
(under DARK AND NOTHINGNESS also)
the strange way in which people behave merely because some one was dead. (432)
Nor were the deaths of young people really the saddest things in life—. (439)
The dead...who had died early,......were beautiful. (439)
They (those who died early) saved so much. (439)

Death Desired

I'd rather die than come in to dinner without changing. (51)
I'd rather have my head cut off than wear flannel next to skin. (51)
He longed for the empty darkness. (218) (under DARK AND NOTHINGNESS also)
All I ask is to be left alone to moulder away in solitude. (235)
by a desire to escape, to have done with this suffering, (418)
So much the better—this was death. (431)
It (death) was happiness, it (death) was perfect happiness. (431)
They had now what they had always wanted to have. (431)
the union which had been impossible while they lived. (431)
She did not want to go on living. (434)

4. DEATH OF FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

He (Mr. Jenkinson) is dead. (9)
He has had the misfortune to lose his wife. (10)
her mother having died. (32) on the day of her mother's funeral (33)
directly his widowed mother died... (138) her mother being dead. (167)
He (my father) died when I was ten in the hunting field. (167)
Poor old Mrs. Fairbank died on the eighth. (209)
The disappearance of her feet having coincided more or less accurately with the
death of her husband, (212)
One was her brother, who had been drowned before her eyes, (213)
a girl, her greatest friend, who had died in giving birth to her first child, (213)
since Theresa (Rachel's mother) died. (220)
He (Evelyn's father) was killed in the war. (225) (under WAR also)
I had an aunt who died of cancer myself. (241) (under DEATH FROM ILLNESS also)
Mrs. Hunt had a son who was hugged to death by a bear. (257)
both her children were not lying dead, crushed by motor omnibuses? (269)
(under ACCIDENTS also)
...a brother of his had died of pneumonia. (295)
(under DEATH FROM ILLNESS also)
that Rachel was dying? (424) She (Rachel) died this morning. (435)
She (Rachel) died early this morning. (435) Miss Vinrace is dead. (441)
She (Rachel) is dead. (441) Dead? Miss Vinrace dead? (441) the old chap died (443)
I had an uncle who knitted his own socks to the day of his death. (452)
5. DEATH OF ANIMALS (see also KILLING ANIMALS)

like animals in a shooting gallery... (4)
He (a dog) followed my wife... and got run over by a brute of a cyclist. (59)
Was he (a dog) killed? (59)
“That’s the painful thing about pets,” said Mr. Dalloway, “they die...” (59)
The first sorrow I can remember was for the death of a dormouse. (59)
I sat upon it. (a dormouse) (59) Here lies the duck that Samuel Johnson sat on, (59)
It’s high time that horses should become extinct. (154)
a great yellow butterfly, which was opening and closing its wings... (207)
by a large moth, which shot from light to light... (216)
Most animals bleed when they are killed. (233)
Have you ever seen a moth dyin’ in a night light? the moths—tiger moths, (236)
Sandy’s (dog’s name) dead. (255)
...the bird (a hen) ran this way and that in sharp angles, and finally fluttered... (308)
The blood and ugly wriggling fascinated Rachel, (308)

6. MURDER AND KILLING ANIMALS (see also DEATH OF ANIMALS)

One would be a murderer rather than a bore! (58) One can fancy liking a murderer. (58)
despatched the wounded, drove the dying into the sea... (101)
I need no longer feel as though I’d murdered a child! (166)
There are moments when, if we stood on a rock together, you’d throw me into the sea. (365)
You can kill a hen by doing that. (123)
...as a child destroys a daisy, petal by petal. (136)
I’d have ‘em (dogs) all shot. (138)
When an ant got through it was exposed to a fire of bread—crumbs, (156)
Some one ought to kill it. (a moth) (216) They kill hens down there. (307)
They cut their (hens’) heads off with a knife. (307)
who... holding it (a hen) out cut its head off with an expression of... (308)
It would be kinder to kill it. (a moth) (425)
Nobody seemed disposed to rouse himself in order to kill the moth. (452)

7. SUICIDE

“Drink drugs,” said Mr. Pepper. (9) Animals do commit suicide. (138)
of a wire haired terrier, white with just one black spot, ...which had committed suicide. (138)
Thoughts of suicide cross his mind. (263) describing the suicide of the parlour maid. (374)
...she had taken poison. (374) Why do people kill themselves? (375)
He writes to Evelyn daily that he’s thinking of committing suicide. (375)

8. ILLNESS, ACCIDENTS, WAR

Death from Illness
...if every earthy animal died of the plague tomorrow. (56-7)
If you all die of typhoid, I won't be responsible. (107)
I had an aunt who died of cancer myself. (241)
(under death of relatives also)
...a brother of his had died of pneumonia. (295)
(under death of relatives also)
...the famous explorer, had died of fever some ten years ago, (339)
Poor Miss Vinrace has died of the fever. (441)
One does not die of it. (rheumatism) (8)
Accidents
...one’s friends are never killed in railway accidents. (131)
...both her children were not lying dead, crushed by motor omnibuses? (269)
(under death of relatives also)
I consider it a kind of charm against accidents. (311)
...in the event of shipwreck or accidents. (311)
I have never met with any accident. (311)
What would he do, she wanted to know, if the boat ran upon a rock and sank. (335)
seeing a picture of a boat upset on the river in England, (350)
A falling branch, a foot that slips, and the earth has crushed them or the water drowned them. (350)
War
“Warships, Dick!” (75) two sinister grey vessels, (75) (under Sinister also)
The Mediterranean Fleet (75) The warships drew past. (75)
At lunch the talk was all of a valor and death, (75)
As for dying on a battlefield, surely it was time we ceased to praise courage—(76)
He was killed in the war. (225) (under death of relatives also)
...and cried over his body on the battlefield. (225)

9. FUNERALS, GRAVES
The smell of broom reminds me of funerals. (33)
...going to church abroad always made her feel as if she had been to a sailor's funeral. (291)
She could almost hear the voices of the mourners. (435)
She photographed Fielding’s grave. (39)
What having you been doing to that old chap’s grave? (170)
...and when you allude to a grave, ......(171)
Have you any authority for calling that ruin a grave? (171)
.....where English people lie buried. (39)
The tunnel opened and became a vault. (86)

10. STATE OF STANDSTILL
shut stationary character of a room(12)
the delights of shutting oneself up in a little world of one's own (45)
Still and cold as death she lay, (86)
I shall never, never, never move again. (170)
His body, lying flat among them, did for a moment suggest death. (170)
You are only half alive. (321)
and hung so long suspended in the air....that it was considered dead, (351)
Thought had ceased; life itself had come to a standstill. (409)
She looked like a victim dropped from the claws of a bird of prey. (35)
so that the hotel was inhabited by bodies without souls. (136)
the waves on the shore sounded like the repeated sigh of some exhausted
creature, (398)
He seemed to stand in an unvexed space of air, (418)

11. DARK AND NOTHINGNESS

He longed for the empty darkness. (218) (under Death Desired also)
She would not submit to dark and nothingness. (438) (under Hatred for Death also)
The great darkness had the usual effect of taking away all desire for
communication. (325)
...there was unbroken darkness. (325)
with scarcely any feeling of life except that they were standing there together
in the darkness. (354)
with peace and security, with dark and nothingness (418)
It (death) was nothing, (431) (under Death Not Being Feared also)
We crumble up to nothing when we die? (442)
in profound peace, enveloped in deeper unconsciousness....(326)
He allowed himself to lapse into forgetfulness of everything. (418)
...the word of the others seemed to curl up and vanish as the ashes of
burnt paper, (338)
It troubled her when people tried to disturb her loneliness ; (424)
She wished to be alone. (424) sometimes seeing darkness, sometimes light, (416)

12. SENSE OF SUBMERGING

the Bottom of the Sea

They have swum among bones. (57) Down she looked into he depth of the sea. (23)
the black ribs of wrecked ships , (23)
I feel like a fish at the bottom of the sea. (198)
the red of the stones at the bottom of it (the water) (250)
Voices crying behind them never reached through the waters in which they
were now sank. (346)
She fell into a deep pool of sticky water, which eventually closed over
her head. (416)
While all her tormentors thought that she was dead, she was not dead, but curled
up at the bottom of the sea. (416)
...some one turned her over at the bottom of the sea. (416)
the Bottom of the World

It's obvious that the world's going as fast as it can to—the Nethermost Pit, (235)
and he and Rachel had dropped to the bottom of the world together. (235)
...sitting perfectly silent at the bottom of the world. (338)
To be flung into the sea, to be washed hither and thither, and driven
about the roots of the world—(365)
Why do we do it?—is it to prevent ourselves from seeing to the bottom
of things—(147)
..., but this was the real world, the world that lay beneath the superficial
world. (418)

13. USE OF WHITE

very chill, white, cold and irreproachably clean (25) (the white of sheets)
the petals of white sea flowers (29)
with the spirit of the whitish boards on deck (35)
She (Clarissa) wore a white dress... (47) white volume of Pascal (55)
like a sea-gull with her white tapering body (56)
a wire-haired terrier, white . . . which had committed suicide, (138)
in white from top to toe, (Evelyn) (148-9)
the old faded eyes, . . . ringed with white (214)
against the background of flowering magnolia (247)
The great white flowers sat in the midst. (247) a small white figure (Evelyn) (297)
Her (Rachel) cheeks were white. (333)
two great white birds with red light on them (336)
The quiet and peace seemed to lap his body in a fine cool sheet, (418)
The bushes outside were ruffled and whitened, (450)
Now and again their faces became white, as the lightning flashed, (450)

14. MISCELLANY

Brittleness of Human Bodies
The delicate flesh of men and women, which breaks so easily and lets the
life escape (349-50)
...to find what a slave one is to one's body in this world. (82)
The strong ones lived —the others died. (336)

Supposition of Death
If you die of dulness, neither will I. (107)
If I were to die, nobody miss me but Dakynes. (213)
If I were to die tomorrow... (220)

Toward the Dead
He never spoke of the dead, but kept anniversaries with singular pomp. (20)
She could almost see the dead. (435) She often dreamt of the dead. (439)

Sinister
The blue flag appeared a sinister token, and this the moments for
presentiments. (7)
“Drink drugs,” said Mr. Pepper with sinister conciseness. (9)
two sinister grey vessels (75) (under war also)
The sight had something inexplicably sinister about it. (403)

Miscellaneous

It shortens one’s life. (82) We always tell her she’ll die on board ship, (128) his misfortune in having died three hundred years ago (170) when doctors are present, or the shadow of death (190)

She (a nurse) was a limpet, for ever dead to the rush of fresh and beautiful things past her. (279)

if you tasted ginger for the first time on your death bed, (310)

Did they find his dead body there? (341)

in her eagerness to see the spot where the explorer had died. (341)

Is it true that women die with bugs crawling across their faces? (369)

...and call a doctor before she died. (374)

...to ascertain that an old lady of eighty five was really dead. (427)

the figure of the dead lying still in the dark beneath the sheets (435)

the soul of the dead had passed from those windows ... (436)

She did not tell him about Miss Vinrace’s death, (439)

She could not speak of death loudly... (441)

at the head of a dead match, (242) beneath twigs and dead leaves (322)