describes Bible as “the essential companion to exile” → refinding Catholic faith/sense of repentance due to sacrifice of wife and children

“Open that door and the real world comes into this room.” → individual vs. society conflict, security and safety from social judgement, putting himself in exile, reluctance to face real world

“he happens to hate my father almost as much as I do myself!” → father vs. son, Bosie’s self-importance stems from heritage, constant facade

“Wilde throws up his hands, near tears.” → artistic temperament, emotionally flamboyant, circumstances out of control

“Do I pour, sir?” → Arthur represents triviality, return to reality after Wilde’s melodramatic outburst

“Do not confuse your life with your art. Such ideas belong only in literature.” → Bosie only with Wilde due to longing to literary association

“You think there’s some hideous glamour in letting Fate propel you down from the heights!” → fate vs. action conflict mirrors Wilde vs. Bosie conflict

“The money is there to fund you in exile.” → irony, audience knows Wilde will die in poverty

“Give me the pocketbook.”, “Please allow us to live our own lives.” → imperatives highlight an attempt to take control, while adverbs (“unsteadily”, “fumblingly”, “clumsily”) reveal lack of success in doing so

“I cannot. I cannot eat it.” → food representative of freedom, freedom can be fought for but Wilde chooses not to = fatalism

“You’ve been used in a family quarrel. His sole and single intention has always been to make his father respond.”, whereas Ross prioritises Wilde’s ultimate happiness

“I have done what I did out of love.” magnifies romantic temperament, indulges in drama, testing love for Bosie and, simultaneously, Bosie’s love for him.

emotional outburst to Ross → true and honest around Ross in a way that he can never be to Bosie

“Be clear. I’m not for one second abandoning you.” → emotional manipulation, Wilde feels bombarded with advice

Bosie has “moved closer to Wilde” → Bosie is restless to leave, eager to take action, Wilde is stationary and resistant to help

“If it seems that Bosie cannot stay – then I am not willing to leave you.” → sense of Ross deeply loving Wilde in a way that is not necessarily sexual

“For as long as we sleep we are in safety.” → ignorance is bliss

“The music begins to fill out.” → used transitionally, dream-like quality, mimics internal thoughts

light used to show passage of time, poetic and lyrical quality

“light comes again from the high window and sweeps round in a circle... highlighting the room exquisitely as it passes and dies” → beauty and danger exist simultaneously, searchlight connotations, final glimpse of beauty