

- The exclamation mark; the prolonged feeling – the feeling never stops
- beginning impersonal and detached and then amore attached tone
- The five years foreshadows the repetition and the prolonging
- Appears like prose
- Iambic pentameter
- How that effects the regularity; disjointed by the cesura
- Irregular rhyme scheme

Lecture and Seminar Four

Wake up
Get Up
Shake Up
Makeup

Go out
Show out
Be out
Leave out

Rest it
Stress it
Be it
Sleep it

Elegy

‘A poem occasioned by the death of someone. It can normally expand to become a more general meditation on mortality. Usually more formal in style and manner.’

‘The Day Lady Died’

-What story, or series of stories, is this poem telling?

- Presents a series of events that took place on the same day
- Describes the death of Billie (very famous Jazz singer)
- Walking down the street; very ordinary, everyday life
- Reflects the fast-past life of the city
- Who is this speaker? Why does he mention Bastille day? Why doesn't he know who will feed him?
- Collection of poems
- Him experiencing city life
- How is the city life represented? There is no full stops

-How does the poem incorporate into itself the fast pace of city life and the promotional language of the urban economy?

- Fragmented events
- Subjective but informative
- Concrete personal details

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- ‘It is necessary to distinguish between the poem as poem and the poem as a historical document’
- Move between possibilities to view them in different ways; different approaches to understand the language more clearly and precisely
- Importance of exploring complex and intertwined relationship between the poem and its historical context
- Complexities to be found in the language of the poem
- Constraints that context holds within each poem and its representation

Lecture and Seminar Ten – Free Verse

What is free verse?

Poetry without a recurring metrical pattern and often without rhyme or recurrence of pattern as regards to the stanza or the use of a refrain

- Not always quite true with the idea of repetition
- Anaphora; a rhetorical figure that repeats the same word or phrase at the beginning of lines. Often can be seen in the bible

Walt Whitman ‘Song of Myself’

‘For me’ anaphora

- Connects the lines of free verse
- Not a line without repetition or patterning
- What constraints does this cause?

Howl, Allen Ginsberg

- Relation to the politics of poetics
- ‘who’ anaphora

Origins of Free Verse in Modernism

- Ezra Pound
- T.s. Eliot

Texts and intertextuality

- Possibilities of free verse
- Previous verse forms and text making
- Text: an autonomous verbal object endowed with ‘public’ meaning – Roland Barthes – defined object vs methodological field
- Patterning in relation to free verse

Intertextuality: the multiple ways in which any one literary text echoes, or is inseparably linked to, other texts, whether by open or covert citations or allusion, or by the assimilation of the

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- The speaker compares his poem with other forms of representation. What are they? And what is the effect of this comparison?

- The poem contrasts 'something imagined' with something 'recalled'; why do you think one is more preferable here than the other?

b) Frank O'Hara, 'Why I am not a Painter'

- How do we know this is free verse?

- How does the poem generate its rhythmic qualities? Is it through the repetition of words, phrases, or grammatical structures, or the arrangement of words on the printed page? Or by some other means?

- Does the poem avoid 'all kinds of recurrence', such as stanza pattern and repetition of words or phrases, or any kind of refrain?

- Why does the poem end where it does?

- Does this poem invite or resist meaning? Why do you think this is?

- And does the answer to this question have any bearing on the form of the poem?

- What do you think might be the significance of SARDINES and/or ORANGES?

c) Adrienne Rich, 'Diving into the Wreck'

- How do we know this is free verse?

- How does the poem generate its rhythmic qualities? Is it through the repetition of words, phrases, or grammatical structures, or the arrangement of words on the printed page? Or by some other means?

- Does the poem avoid 'all kinds of recurrence', such as stanza pattern and repetition of words or phrases, or any kind of refrain?

- How does the poem trace the activities it describes through the form of the poem?

- In what way(s) does the poem draw a connection between diving and writing a poem?

- Can you identify at least one other thing that you find interesting or intriguing?

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