

Early Twentieth-Century Fiction  
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(Murray 019, Tuesday 2:30–4:30)

November 1, 2016. Woolf (3).

# review

- ▶ the transfer of confidence

## review

- ▶ the transfer of confidence
- ▶ multipersonal representation of consciousness

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- ▶ the transfer of confidence
- ▶ multipersonal representation of consciousness
- ▶ Is the War over?

## not this

They were talking about his [Mr. Dalloway's] Bill. Some case, Sir William was mentioning, lowering his voice. It had its bearing upon what he was saying about the deferred effects of shell shock. There must be some provision in the Bill. (179)

Holmes would say "In a funk, eh?" Holmes would get him. (145; qtd. by "MK511")

Proportion, divine proportion...not only did his colleagues respect him, his subordinates fear him, but the friends and relations of his patients felt for him the keenest gratitude. (97)

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Conversion...smites out of her way roughly the dissentient, or dissatisfied; bestows her blessing on those who, looking upward, catch submissively from her eyes the light of her own. (97-98)

If they failed him, he had to support police and the good of society. (99)

# individuality or common life?

Discussion: Expos moment!

1. What is Zwerdling's argument?
2. Then: find an example of how he uses textual evidence as part of the argument.

## Zwerdling: theses

As a moralist, Woolf works by indirection, subterraneously undermining the officially accepted code, mocking, suggesting, calling into question, rather than asserting, advocating, bearing witness. (70)

The fundamental conflict in *Mrs. Dalloway* is between those who identify with Establishment “dominion” and “leadership” and those who resist or are repelled by it. (75)

free your mind?

“The social system” Woolf describes in *Mrs. Dalloway* is not likely to be transformed soon enough to allow either of them [Peter or Clarissa] to build their lives on the flow as well as the containment of emotion. (81)

## other minds

She understood; she understood without his speaking; his Clarissa. (115; qtd. by “JM” and “PB”)

Richard merely thought it foolish of her to like excitement when she knew it was bad for her heart. (118; qtd. by “VJB” and “BK”)

## from empathy to...telepathy?

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Of course I did, thought Peter; it almost broke my heart too, he thought.  
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Every power poured its treasures on his [Septimus's] head, and his hand lay there on the back of the sofa....Fear no more, says the heart in the body; fear no more. (136)

She [Clarissa] read in the book spread open:

*Fear no more the heat o' the sun  
Nor the furious winter's rages. (9)*

next

- ▶ Woolf wrap-up
- ▶ Woolf, *A Room of One's Own*, chap. 3
- ▶ make-up possibility