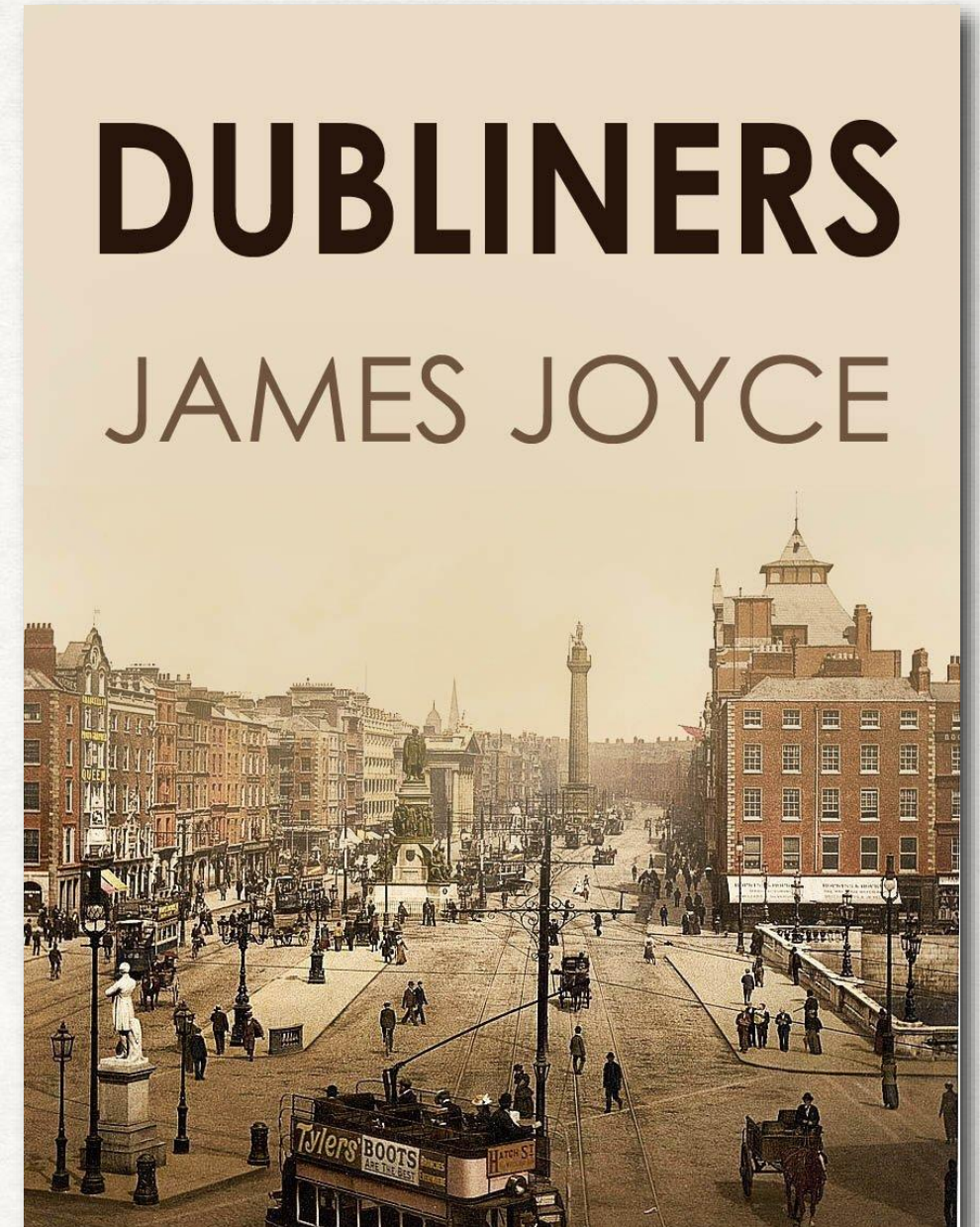


# THE DEAD JAMES JOYCES

GIACOMO GIRARDI  
5LSCA

- WRITER: James Joyce
- GENERE: Short Story ( 15 short stories)
- PUBLICATION DATE: June 1914





# SETTING

## THE SHORT STORY

- MAINLY SET IN KATE AND JULIA MORKAN'S HOUSE
- THE SETTING CHANGES IN THE FINAL PART
- NARRATION TAKES PLACE IN A HOTEL.

# CHARACTERS AND CHARACTERIZATION

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| GABRIEL CONROY        | <p>A teacher and writer, Gabriel has simple conversations but straightforward questions catch him off guard.</p> <p>Sometimes he feels out of place.</p> <p>A force of control in the story, his wife Gretta's fond and sad recollections of a devoted lover make him realize he has little grasp on his life and that his marriage lacks true love.</p> |
| GRETТА CONROY         | <p>Gabriel's wife.</p> <p>Gretta plays a relatively minor role for most of the story, In the conclusion she becomes the focus of Gabriel's thoughts and actions.</p> <p>Appears sad and distant but when a special song is sung at the party, She later plunges into despair when she tells Gabriel the story of her childhood love, Michael Furey.</p>  |
| LILY                  | <p>The housemaid to the Morkan sisters who rebukes Gabriel in "The Dead."</p>  |
| MOLLY IVORS           | <p>The nationalist woman who teases Gabriel during a dance in "The Dead."</p>  |
| JULIA AND KATE MORKAN | <p>Sisters organising an annual dance party</p> <p>Julia: grey appearance combining with her remote, wandering behavior to make her a figure sapped of life.</p> <p>Kate: vivacious but constantly worried about her sister, Julia, and the happiness of the guests.</p>   |
| MICHAEL FUREY         | <p>Gretta Conroy's childhood love in "The Dead" who died for her long ago.</p>   |



# NARRATIVE TECHNIQUES

## Epiphany

- Moment of interior illumination:
- makes one aware of reality ⇒ a simple object, a usual fact, an irrelevant detail, suddenly acquires a profound and unexpected meaning.

## Paralysis

- applies to characters, places, social and private relationship and thoughts.
- Restrictive routines and repetitive actions marking the lives of Dubliners
- People trapped in circles of frustration.

## Realistic Symbolism

- Detailed description of the characters and environments ⇒ to imagine the scenes
- Language of sense impression



# USE OF THE LANGUAGE

Use of adjectives describing

- Objects
- Atmosphere
- People's mood and emotions, places
- Formal language



# SYMBOLS

## **Images and symbols:**

- Trans – form everyday life
- capture the universal element hidden in the little things around characters and environment

## **Music**

*The Lass of Aughirm becomes a symbol ⇒ “ there was grace and mystery in her attitude as if she were a symbol of something. He asked himself what is a woman standing on the stairs in the shadow, listening to distant music, a symbol of. ”*



# MESSAGE

- LIFE IS SHORT
- THOSE WHO LEAVE THE WORLD LIKE MICHAEL FUREY ARE ACTUALLY MORE ALIVE THAN THE "PARALYZED" PEOPLE LIKE GABRIEL.
- GABRIEL SEES HIMSELF AS THE SHADOW OF A PERSON, SHINING IN A WORLD WHERE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD MEET.
- WE ARE ALL DEAD, THOUGH STILL ALIVE.
- AFTER ALL, DOESN'T LIVING PASSIVELY MEAN NOT LIVING AT ALL?



# WHY SHOULD ONE READ IT?

**POSES RELEVANT QUESTIONS** EVEN IN OUR POST MODERN  
CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY.