**THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD**

The burial of the dead is the first section of Eliot’s poem “ The Weste Land” published in 1922. It is one of the first Modern Poem of the 20th century .

In the first line an unknown speaking voice claim that April is the cruelest month of the year. The poem is a dramatic monologue: there is also a speaking voice and a silent audience is listening carefully to his words. The thought is in contraposition with the typical way of thinking: April is the month of spring and therefore love and life. In this poem April looks like the month of death and sadness. The modern men is lost and feel sterile, infertile, he doesn’t have anything, he has lost values and ideologies. The flowers instead are a clear symbol of connection between the present and the past. It is interesting to notice the repetition of the words in “ing” at the end of every verse. It creates a melodious sound and thanks to the enjambments the reading is fluid and harmonic. On contrary winter is the warmest time of the year, just as the snow does with the earth, winter covers our emotions and feelings.

We have an information about a place : the Starnberger see. It is the name of a lake that's just a couple miles south of Munich, Germany. The speaking voice is giving us some information about a trip or a voyage. It is a flash back of World War I. Then they have stopped to Hofgraten and drunk coffee. In the following verse there is a sentence in German, we could translate it as “ I am not from Russia but from Lithuania , I am a real German”. The poet reports us part of the conversation with a men.

From line 13 the poet presents us a scene from his childhood. We find out that the speaker is the cousin of an archduke; we also find out the name of the speaking voice : Marie. It is a female name and it is an allusion to a real historical character: Marie Louise Elizabeth Mendel, a Bavarian woman who was born into a family with royal roots, and became Countess Larisch when she was nineteen. The passage is a memory when the two children used to play together and go sledding. There is also a verse which presents the emotions of freedom and expresses her sensations . Now she spends her time reading books , she doesn’t get enjoyments from the mountains anymore

From line 19 it is not anymore Marie who is talking but someone else. The first three versions are taken from the Bible and makes a comparison between human soul and a lend without water, it is sterile and infertile . The following verse is a question