

## The symbolism in Act Without Words\lecture (2)

1-the water is a symbol of life or the aim that the man wants to fulfill.

2-Scissors is a symbol for civilization and physical existence.

3-Hand is a symbol of existence and of human will as when the man looks for his hand all the time. This act reveals his impotence to do or change things by his hands.

4-rope is a symbol for asking for help from God. At the end when he refuses to move this is a symbol of death or rebellion against reality.

5-trees and desert is a symbol of life. It is the setting of the play.

6-light is a symbol of a recurring motif throughout Beckett's work. Light and illumination are inherent symbols of apprehension of consciousness in man.

7-Whistle use to pick man's attention and seems to guide him toward action represents some sort of external guiding force. This whistle is a warn for the man to do something. It is a malevolent guide; the tempter a devil.

8-The fling is a symbol of man impotence as he cannot choose to leave or escape this desert or hard life. The man will face all the obstacles in life against his will. He is tossed into existence without any possibility of successful control over his life. The word flung symbolizes the act of birth; an act which utterly absurd as no one asks for it, but must deal with the consequences.

9-The tree is the source of physical comfort. It is a shelter from the heat in the desert.

10-scissors, the rope and cube are symbols of reason. These tools are important only through the trial and error. All these tools prove to be useless, but such path of rationality. One must comprehend logic before it can be successfully applied.

-The man looking for his hand refers to the theme of communication. But the man cannot observe how he can use his hand. This a reference for the modern man as estrange from others.

The falling of man is the theme of learning that man learns from his fault. As he tries to survive in the wilderness and desert. Then he gives up all his effort to end his life or commit suicide, and accept death with no struggle or resistance.

Whistle from above is symbol of heaven.

The man does not move is symbol of choosing not exert action, or giving up.

A Critique on Samuel Beckett's 'Act without words'.

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