

RHODA

The Waves (1931) Virginia Woolf



Episode (pages)	Speaking Order	Colors	Symbol/Imagery	Events	Connections
Childhood (9-28)	Mixed 3, 10, 14, 22, 26, 32, 48, 54, 65	Grey, white, red, brown, green, black, yellow	Dreamlike, senses, birds (one sings alone), waves that crash and separate, looking-glass, water, fish	Creates a fleet of petals in a basin, cannot do her figures, world and time fill the loop, touches things to keep from sinking	Depression, “rose,” Rachel Vinrace, Percy Bysshe Shelley
School (30-72)	Grouped: /Boys /girls separate // 2 // 3, 5 // 3 // 3 //	Purple, black, white, brown, green, red, blue	hard doors, stockings, pierced with arrows to win tears, veil, fire/flame, body, tiger or wave of life springs, bodies bound to wild horse/monster	Hides from her face in the looking-glass, copies others, adores Miss Lambert, reads/dreams of moonlit flowers, cannot cross a puddle	“I have no face” Vanessa Bell, lesbianism “Oh! To whom?”, Russian Empress, Virginia Woolf
University (76-107)	Split: Boys/Girls // 3	Blue, white	Moon, tiger leaps, marble columns, swallow dips its wings, million arrows pierce, amulets & masks, shadows, people without faces, fire	Forced to be in a social situation, feels broken into pieces, she lies, moves to a balcony, waves break fleet of petals in basin	Youth, nakedness, dreams
Dinner (111-147)	Sequential (conversation): 7, 15, 24, 29, 35, 38, 43, 48, (52,54) 62, 66, 70	Green, red, orange, umber, “queer ambiguous tints”, blue, yellow	Faceless, tiger, veils, flowers, swallows dip wings, minnows, arrows of moonlight, column, (naked men with assegais, flames, violets)	Circles around, afraid of the moment, presses hand to wall, feels safe when P. arrives, looks past them to fill emptiness (speaks of death)	Nymph of the fountain always wet, one, two; one, two; she is outside the circle, conspirator with Louis
Death (151-164)	3	Purple, red, blackened	uncrossable puddle, violets, oaks cracked asunder, hideous human faces, alcoves of silence, lightening flashes	Cannot cross the puddle, grindstone roars by her head, walks Oxford St. to buy stockings, names the others’ reactions	Percival’s death reveals terror, hate, jealousy
Love (167-181)	Absent				
Middle Age (184-206)	6	Grey, brown, blue, blue- black, green, red, yellow, white	Square on the oblong, marble pillar, knife blade, life through shades, rook, stockings, white petals	Travels to Spain, remembers Oxford St., “Oh! To whom?”, climbs a hill, touches hard door	Africa, London squalor, Death, Percival “the house which contains us all”
Hampton Court (210-235)	Conversations/observation 4, 8, 12, (15,17) 23, 29, 31, 33, 35	Green, yellow, white, blue, black, red	Knife, swallow dips wing, transparent walls of the mind, square upon the oblong, moonlight	Walks directly toward the group, observes actions as circumferential, protective bubble (conspirators)	Facelessness, solitude, death divides even from Louis
Summation (238-297)	Nymph of the fountain always wet		Basin with sailing white petals, pillar in the desert	Disgusted by cruelty, killed self	Wildness, ocean

RHODA

The Waves

Virginia Woolf

