

By the end of studying **Act 3 Scene 3** I need to know:

Plot: The 'Big Attack' arrives. Raleigh is shot in his spine and Stanhope attempts to nurse and reassure him. Raleigh dies and Stanhope goes up to fight. The dugout receives a direct hit and the dugout collapsing, entombing Raleigh and symbolising the deaths of all of the soldiers.

Vocabulary	<p>Salute - A greeting Wiring party - Barbed wire as a form of defence Bombardment - Continuous attack of bombs and shells Sambridges - Sandwiches (Mason's pronunciation of them - link to class) Pate de fois gras- a delicacy, it's smooth stomach of duck after it's been force-fed. It's typical of the upper classes but is used here by Stanhope, who is mocking the state of the food provided. Lancer's Alley - A place further up from the trench Linger - Hang around Minenwerfer/Minnie - Short range mortar Cheero - Bye Rifle grenades - Type of bomb Fosse Way - A place further up from the trench Stretcher - bearer - Soldiers helping the injured onto stretchers</p>
Context	<p>The realities of war - the death of the soldiers</p> <p>Microcosm of youth/naivety</p> <p>The realities of fear</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iTJmhVohgE8 - 'There's a long, long trail awinding'. A famous song sound troupes during the war. This is the song that Trotter sings as they are getting ready for the German attack. It's a song about being at home with someone you love- poignant considering Trotter knows he won't be going home. It's impossible to really gauge the impact this song has outside of the performance, though it is quite haunting to listen to when reading at the point that Trotter sings this.</p>
Themes	<p>Friendship Death Fear Comradeship</p>
Deeper understanding	<p>Trotter ironically wakes up Hibbert and Raleigh before Stanhope has even woken up which could indicate Trotter knowing that Stanhope may need a little bit of help at the start of this scene. Stanhope, although the stronger figure, is still asleep, this could be an indication of his grief from the previous scene of losing Osborne.</p> <p>Stanhope orders his men to join the fighting but makes no attempt to leave the dugout himself - perhaps an indication that his fear is keeping him from fulfilling his duty.</p> <p>This scene emphasises the inescapable reality of war. This scene is the what the soldiers have been waiting for and what Sherriff has alluded to throughout the play. The scene is significant for Stanhope - he loses another 'friend' but more importantly he has actually lost someone who he hasn't treated with the greatest of respect throughout the play. Once Raleigh passes away, he has nothing except his fear which Sherriff has very clearly shown through his character by ensuring he is preoccupying himself in the dugout (despite the fact the audience can hear the bombs/shells exploding). Sherriff cleverly displays Hibbert's childish and cowardice by showing the audience his delay tactics by asking for water.</p> <p>The symbolism of the candle shows the reality of what the men will face; ultimately the candle going out could symbolise the characters losing their lives.</p>

Reading:

Taking the role of a character
 Reading of the stage directions

Characters:

- Stanhope
- Raleigh
- Hibbert
- Trotter
- Mason
- Sargent Major

Read full words "fraid" as 'afraid'

Stoicism and Fear- This scene perfectly encapsulates the bravery and stoicism of the soldiers who fought in World War One. Small moments, like Trotter shaving and appearing (for the first time)'fully dressed for the line' convey the nobility and bravery of the soldiers going to their deaths; Trotter is well aware here of his potential death yet goes anyway. The stage directions of the soldiers as they go up into the trenches to battle hints at this- all except Raleigh [still naïve to the true realities of what he will be facing] go 'slowly' or 'slower than they came down'- these small moments mean a lot; they speak of the fear but more so highlight the bravery of stoicism of these men, who knowingly faced horrors. We are reminded by Sherriff here of the inadequacy of coping mechanisms as well- Trotter, still demonstrating unbelievable levels of positivity is the first to go up. Hibbert, on the other hand, wavers- his alcohol (the coping mechanism shared by Stanhope and seemingly working the previous evening when Trotter remarks 'I've never seen him so cheerful') now fails Hibbert. His 'face [is] a picture of misery' as he pours out and 'carefully' swigs water in an attempt to delay going to the frontline. Stanhope, as he prepares to go up into the front line (before Raleigh's injury) empties the rest of the whiskey into his flask- again it is what Stanhope will need to face fighting, yet this reminds the audience that it will always run out.

Dennis and Jimmy- Stanhope and Raleigh's close bond is emphasised here. Stanhope's change of tone- referring to Raleigh by his first name and offering him hope: he's got a 'blighty one' and telling him to lie there until his pain wears off are the final things he can do for his friend. Raleigh's naivety rings true here, comparing his fatal injury to when he was 'winded playing rugger' and comparing it to a 'knock' further highlights how utterly unaware he is about war and the extent of his injury. This helps to highlight the theme of wasted youth- a common theme and idea across all literature about World War One.

Realities of war- Throughout the play, Sherriff highlights the realities of war against the propaganda- but this scene really reflects the lies of the propaganda here. The audience of 1932 would well be aware of the way war was presented and the pomp and ceremony that was awarded to soldiers who returned, all of which suggested the respect levelled at the soldiers by the British government. However, here we have brave and noble soldiers who have been abandoned by their government and left to die. Stanhope attempts to make Raleigh as comfortable as he can be in his final moments: he rolls a trench coat as a makeshift pillow (made out of uncomfortable heavy-duty cotton), places him on Osborne's bed (as it is the only one with wire) and bathes his face. Raleigh asks for water, yet even something as simple as this is not afforded as pleasant. Osborne and Hardy's seemingly innocuous conversation about the 'disinfectant' in the water leaving a nasty taste- 'I'd rather have the microbes, wouldn't you?' takes on a more poignant edge- Raleigh isn't even awarded the comfort of pleasant-tasting water in his final moments. His death is a far cry from the glorified, heroic, noble and respectful deaths that were portrayed by the propaganda.

Quotes

"Better go up Trotter" - Stanhope
 "Cheero - Stanhope" - Raleigh
 "You want me to go up now?" - Hibbert
 "E's fainted, sir. 'E was conscious when I picked 'im up," - SM
 "Hullo—Dennis," he says. "Well, Jimmy," Stanhope says, smiling, "you got one quickly." - Exchange between Raleigh and Stanhope - This is the first time within the play that Stanhope uses Raleigh's first name.
 "I can't go home just for—for a knock in the back," - Raleigh
 "Dennis—" he whispers after a moment of silence. "Could we have a light? It's—it's so frightfully dark and cold." - Raleigh
 "runs his fingers over Raleigh's tousled hair." - Stage direction of Stanhope's actions
 "The shells are falling steadily now"- SD
 "I'm so frightfully thirsty" - Hibbert
 "Boy" - SD used to describe Raleigh

"Stanhope pauses for a moment by Osborne's bed and lightly runs his fingers over Raleigh's tousled hair. He goes stiffly up the steps, his tall figure black against the dawn sky. The shelling has risen to a great fury. The solitary candle burns with a steady flame and Raleigh lies in the shadows. The whine of a shell rises to a shriek and bursts on the dug-out roof. The shock stabs out the candle-flame; the timber props of the door cave slowly in, sandbags fall and block the passage to the open air. There is a darkness in the dug-out here and there the red dawn glows through the jagged holes of the broken doorway. Very faintly there comes the dull rattle of machine-guns and the fevered spatter of rifle fire"

Terminology

- Broken sentences
- Onomatopoeia
- Repetition
- Imperatives
- Metaphor
- Personification
- Semantic field
- Semantic derogation

Links across the text:

Link to the very opening scene. The candle that has been burning now goes out.

Act One: Hardy and Osborne discuss how disgusting the disinfectant makes the water taste- this is now the water that Raleigh drinks for comfort in his final moments.

Act Two Scene One: Trotter suggests in Act 3 Scene 3 that he whistles when he's unhappy- this can be seen at the start of Act 2 Scene 1, when Trotter comes 'whistling' down the steps and then announces 'what a lovely smell of bacon' in contrast to Stanhope calling it a 'foul smell of bacon'. This highlights how Trotter seeks to find the positives and uses food as a coping mechanism.

Symbols of light and dark
Colour connotation
Symbol of life and death

Ideas: