

5- Aysu SERİNTÜRK

A Day in the Medieval Age through the Eyes of Virginia Woolf

While setting up Virginia Woolf as a medieval woman, I considered her critical point of view, feminist attitude and rebellion. The centerpiece of Woolf's criticism is the pressure of the church, Black Death, class discrimination and the conditions women face. She shares her criticism in her diary because, as a woman, that's probably the only thing she could do at that time:

Black Death will kill all of us...

This disease decimated all of us; who gave this punishment; did nature or, as the church says, God deem us worthy because of our sins? The peasants who are the pawns of the aristocracy are in misery. What could be worse in this dark time when people could not work and earn a living even at a normal time? Hundreds of children sleep hungry, women who want to distribute healing are declared witches and sentenced to death, and many peasants who suffer this discrimination bow to those they call their Lords. Aren't these Lords and aristocrats part of the oppressive church and that order, which is above all else and says that God says so? I think this disaster is the punishment of these nobles, not us, poor people.