

6. In *Fin de partie* Beckett had questioned the validity of the association between April and happiness with an exchange between Nell and Nagg:

Nell: Nous nous sommes promenés sur le lac de Côme. Une après-midi d'avril.

Nagg: On s'était fiancés la veille.

Nagg: Fiancés! (36)

The cliché image of the month of April, normally associated with spring, youth, and life appears paradoxical in a context where only old age and death dominate.

7. To be compared with Winnie's inaudible prayer in *Oh les beaux jours*. Her "Jesus-Christ Amen" and "siècles des siècles amen" (12, 13) are empty formulas which have no context since the prayer itself cannot be heard and is, therefore, in theatrical terms, non-existent. The act of praying becomes progressively more meaningless and Winnie at the end of act one can no longer put it into practice after telling herself "prie ta vieille prière, Winnie" (57).

8. In *Malone meurt*, Beckett states: "Il y a si peu de différence entre un homme et une femme, je veux dire entre les miens" (10).

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