

Kalloccain and the nature of human existence: Buddhist Motifs

- Emptiness and loneliness (167)
- Fear (126, 131, 142, 148-9)
 - **What is useful? Perspective (146)**
 - **Freedom from fear (150, 154)**
- Power (158-160, 162)
- Compassion & Truth (168, 175-77)
- Impermanence (182, 190-1)
- Motifs point to theme: Kalloccain asserts that fear, emptiness and loneliness can be overcome only with love and compassion. However, even those are impermanent.

Doris Lessing: *The Grass Is Singing*



- Dr. Theresa Thompson
- ENGL / WGST 3330
- Fall 2009

Biographical Background

Born Doris Taylor, Oct. 10, 1919 in Persia (now Iran)

Bibliography

1924-1949: Lived in Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe).

1928: Married Frank Wisdom.

Divorced 1943

1945: Joins Communist party & marries Gottfried Lessing.

Divorced 1949

Quits Communist party 1956

1950: Publishes *The Grass Is Singing*

1960s: becomes a Sufi

1995: Honorary degree from Harvard.

2007: Nobel Prize for literature.

Publishes *The Cleft*

2008: Publishes *Alfred and Emily*.



Lessing, Late 1950s



The Grass Is Singing

- Set in Southern Rhodesia.
- Epigraphs:
 - **Eliot's *The Waste Land*.**
 - **Emphasis on failure of civilization.**
- Themes: insanity, colonial power, patterns & expectations for a "good and successful life."
- Pity for Dick Turner and only "fierce indignation" for Mary who was ...



Dead from the start.



Killing Heat (1981)

- Karen Black: Mary Turner
- John Thaw: Dick Turner
- John Kani: Moses
- Patrick Mynhardt: Charlie Muller
- John Moulder-Brown: Tony Marston
- Margaret Heale: Ellen Muller
- Björn Gedda: Sgt. Denham
- Jan Nygren: Doctor
- Vincent Mijoni: Boss' boy
- Ivy Miyanda: Moses' wife
- Reg Cornish: Mary's boss
- Gailos Shiyamba: Samson
- Kennedy Mungomba: Fison
- Martyn Hutchins: Harry
- Wesley Kaonga: Dhlamini



Shot on location in Zambia
