TERRIBLE BEAUTY: IDEOLOGY AND POLITICAL DISCOURSES IN THE EARLY PLAYS OF SEAN O’CASEY

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“We are afraid of sadness,” the poet (Yeats), murmured, “we have it in life, but we fear it in the theatre. You musn’t be afraid of it, O’Casey.”

“I’m not, if it tinges, or even startles life, like a discordant note in a lovely symphony. But when it comes brazen through hunger, disease, or wretchedness, then I hate it; then I fight against it, for through that suffering there can be no purification. It is villainous, and must be destroyed.”