

name: _____

class: _____

date: _____

Memento Mori and The Black Death



The phrase _____ mori, meaning "remember you must die," took on profound significance during the era of the Black Death. This devastating _____, which swept through Europe in the 14th century, claimed millions of _____, drastically altering the social and cultural landscape. As the plague ravaged cities and villages, the _____ of death became omnipresent, not just as a possibility but as an imminent certainty.

Art and _____ began to reflect this obsession with mortality. Tomb sculptures grew more _____, depicting decomposing corpses, to remind the living of their eventual fate. The Danse _____, or Dance of Death, became a popular theme, illustrating the idea that death unites all, regardless of _____.

Religion also intensified its focus on the afterlife, with the Church emphasizing the importance of a virtuous life to avoid the horrors of _____. This period saw a surge in the commissioning of _____, portable altarpieces showing heaven, earth, and hell, intended to serve as visual reminders of life's _____.

Communities found solace in collective mourning practices, which often included processions and the public _____ of names of the deceased. These rituals helped people process the collective trauma and find some _____ of peace in the shared experience of loss.

The Black Death also led to a shift in _____ perspectives, with more emphasis on the fragility of life and the _____ of the present moment. This was reflected in literature, where themes of _____ and the fleeting nature of earthly pleasures became more prevalent.

As the pandemic eventually subsided, the cultural _____ of memento mori remained, deeply ingrained in the European psyche. It served as a stark _____ that life is temporary and that death is the great equalizer, shaping cultural expressions for _____ to come.

philosophical

vanity

lives

importance

measure

literature

reminder

memento

reading

trptychs

hell

Macabre

pandemic

transience

impact

generations

reminder

graphic

status