

Discussion Questions for *Death in Venice*

1. How does Aschenbach define beauty?
2. Why is Aschenbach drawn to Venice?
3. Is there a link between corruption and beauty?
4. Why does Aschenbach stay in Venice, knowing that the city faces a disease outbreak?
5. What is the attitude of Tadzio towards Aschenbach?
6. Is there a foreshadowing of the lecherous old man on the ship and Aschenbach? If so, how?
7. Why does Aschenbach start dressing up as a younger man despite the fact that he thought it ridiculous in the old man on the ship?
8. Has Aschenbach's earlier repression at his work in Munich led in some way to the excess of his passion for Tadzio in Venice?
9. What is the significance of the performance of the street musicians and the solo performer who talks directly to Aschenbach?
10. Why does Aschenbach's dream sequence bring to mind Pan, Bacchus and satyrs?