THE CONE GATHERERS

Chapter 6

This is the chapter in which the deer drive takes place and is a very important chapter in terms of not just the “action” but in terms of the further deterioration of Duror’s behaviour and state of mind.

Until now, Duror has always outwardly appeared to be completely in control: in Chapter 2 he is described as having an “iron mask of determination” which only his mother in law ever sees slipping. When Mrs Morton thinks of him in Chapter Three she admires him for being “distinguished” in body and mind. Although he appears unshaven in front of Lady Runcie Campbell she appears not to notice, but thinks he looks pale and ill when asked about his wife. He is managing to keep his inner torment and thoughts of the cone-gatherers destruction from affecting his appearance and behaviour.

However in this chapter the outward composure begins to crumble and it becomes obvious to others that there is something wrong.

Write about Duror’s actions and appearance in this chapter, and how they indicate his true state of mind.