

The Return of the Prodigal: The Thing Imagined by Thomas Wolfe

Vocabulary List

- Anomaly: something that differs from the usual pattern or what is expected
- Befallen: to take place; something bad that has happened
- Bleakness: bare or cold
- Blustery: strong, windy weather
- Conciliating: to overcome distrust, or to make compatible
- Cronies: a close friend or buddy
- Desolate: a miserable feeling of emptiness, or being lonely
- Disheveled: messy, not very neat, or tidy
- Enfeebled: to take away the strength of something or someone
- Exile: a person who lives away from their home, either by force or choice
- Festoons: chains or strips of ribbons and strings
- Furze: a scruffy light beard
- Gabled: the front wall at the sloping sides of a roof forming a triangle
- Gaunt: very thin and bony, lean
- Grandeur: impressive or fancy in appearance or style
- Grievous: painful or full of grief
- Grimace: a facial expression used to show pain, disgust, or anger
- Indecision: inability or unwillingness to come to a decision
- Judicially: thinking critically or expressing judgement
- Lineaments: a distinguishing shape or outline, distinctive features
- Nondescript: lacking notable or distinct features
- Nostalgic: to remember and feel longing for the past
- Opulence: showing wealth and abundance

- Phantom: a ghost or spirit
- Portent: a sign of something important that is about to occur, an omen
- Preceded: to come before something
- Precincts: the area within the boundaries of a particular place
- Prepossessing: not attractive or appealing
- Pretentious: having a sense of importance or superiority
- Profound: a state resulting in very great emotion or deep thought
- Pugnacious: aggressive or quarrelsome, eager to fight
- Relics: something that has survived from the past, like an object or custom
- Roomin'-House: a large house with rooms rented to guests, much like a bed and breakfast
- Stupor: a state of confusion or unconsciousness
- Threadbare: fabric that is thinly worn, shabby
- Threatening: a hostile, angry, or frightening manner
- Tranquil: calm, steady, and peaceful; without noise or excitement
- Tremulous: wavering or timid, nervousness
- Truculence: fiercely cruel or harsh
- Visage: the view of something on the surface