

***'Another' Antigone: The Right To Live and To Die With Dignity.
Notes on Valeria Parrella's Antigone (2012)***

© Rosanna Lauriola

ABSTRACT

Still and again Antigone...

Among the uncountable re-elaborations of the well-known Sophoclean tragedy, the short play *Antigone* by a contemporary Italian writer, Valeria Parrella, proves to be an interesting adaptation for its capability to address a very 'hot' ethical issue of our times: the euthanasia. Transforming the Sophoclean dead Polynices into a 'quasi-dead' man, who is obstinately kept in the upper world because of a decree by the representative of the political and civic community, Parrella portrayed Antigone, sister of this 'quasi-dead' Polynices, as a strongly determined champion of the individual's human right to live and to die with dignity. She, too, defies a man-made law standing for natural laws, which are unwritten and live forever. Analyzing the ways of Parrella's reception of the tragedy of Sophocles, this paper aims at proving the once-again-resonance of an ancient tale at the dawn of the third millennium, once again challenging the audience to pose themselves fundamental questions on life, as the more than two thousand years old Antigone did.