



---

## Failing to Bury the Giant: An Interdisciplinary Analysis of Violence in Kazuo Ishiguro's Seventh Novel

Amalia Călinescu

### Abstract

If *The Buried Giant* had been intended as a historiographic metafiction, its setting could have been replaced with recent locations having witnessed great wars, but then Kazuo Ishiguro would have unwillingly written a reportage-like novel instead of a historical fantasy dealing with magical ways of forgetting past atrocities in order to secure a peaceful future. While in his previous novels Ishiguro introduces only mental monsters, in *The Buried Giant* the characters are sent searching for their forgotten past in a post-Arthurian England with ogres that carry off children, pixies that render people ill and dragons that can erase all memories. The current study proposes an interdisciplinary analysis of *The Buried Giant*, drawing upon psychology, game theory and behavioural economics in order to convey personal and collective violence in connection to power, racism, trauma and spatio-temporal mobility. In the end, all events stem from choices and decisions, which are essentially emotional.

**Keywords:** Violence; Journey and Mobility; Game Theory; Behavioural Economics Interdisciplinarity; *The Buried Giant*.