

食べ物の色を利用した色彩表現～黄色と白色

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▶キーワード

色彩、小説

▼要 旨

食べ物や飲み物の色を利用した色彩表現には、様々なものがある。黄色では、はちみつ色やマスタード色、バター色、チーズ色、シャンパン色が使われている。白色では、ミルク色など様々なものが使われている。

はじめに

前回、食べ物の色を利用した色彩表現で赤と茶色のものを取り上げたので、今回はそれ以外の黄色と白色のものをまとめる。

1. 黄色

a. はちみつ色

明るい黄色で、yellow や gold という語を伴う表現もある。太陽の光、月、目、服、肌の色の表現などがあつた。

The slope of the bars of honey-coloured sunlight decreased;¹

Look at that great honey-coloured moon that hangs in the dusky air.²

1 William Golding, *Lord of the Flies*, Faber and Faber, London, 2012, p. 72.

2 Oscar Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2008, p. 183.

Then she raised her glance to look at him, and he gave a start: she had intense, deep-set eyes of an unusual honey-gold colour that gave her whole face a magical look,³

Lou, who was wearing a summer suit, smart, now rather crumpled, of honey-yellow linen, felt Josephine look her up and down.⁴

He apprehended that her face was not really dark but radiant, almost pale, beneath its shadowy honey-golden surface colour.⁵

また、黄色ではなく white という語を伴い少し黄色がかった白い肌の色の表現があった。

But he was watching her throat below the ear, where the flush was fusing into the honey-white,⁶

b. マスタード色

からし色で、濃い黄色を表す。ゴーギャンの絵に描かれたタヒチの女性の肌、服、花の色の表現などがあった。

I myself never really care for paintings of native women — and although I know he is very much admired — I have never care for that lurid mustard colour.⁷

He wears waistcoats, sometimes red or mustard-yellow wool, sometimes sort of brocaded.⁸

She removed from the bedside the empty bouillon cup, made up the fire, arranged some mustard-yellow chrysanthemums, sent by a sympathizer in the village, in a crystal vase.⁹

c. バター色

バターの淡い黄色を表す。バス、髪、時計、花の色の表現などがあった。

Devon Tours in Daffodil Coaches, horrible great butter-coloured brutes.¹⁰

3 Ken Follett, *The Pillars of the Earth*, William Morrow, New York, 2007, p.35.

4 Elizabeth Bowen, “Look at All Those Roses” in *Collected Stories*, Vintage Books, London, 1999, p.575.

5 Iris Murdoch, *The Nice and the Good*, Vintage Classics, London, 2000, p.248.

6 D.H. Lawrence, *Sons and Lovers*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1993, p.353.

7 Agatha Christie, *4.50 from Paddington*, HarperCollins, London, 2002, pp.178-9.

8 A.S. Byatt, *Babel Tower*, Vintage Books, London, 2003, p.75.

9 Elizabeth Bowen, *The Little Girls*, Anchor Books, New York, 2004, p.287.

10 Agatha Christie, *Sleeping Murder*, HarperCollins, London, 2002, p.226.

Phyllis had hair the colour of butter, slick and shiny.¹¹

Out came the thin, butter-yellow watch again, and for the twentieth—fiftieth—hundredth time he made the calculation.¹²

Leaning over the hedge, he pulled three sprigs of honeysuckle, yellow as butter, full of scent;¹³

d. チーズ色

チーズには黄色といっても、白に近い色からオレンジ色のものまで様々なものがあるが、薄くオレンジがかった黄色の色であろうか。月、顔色、服の色などの表現があった。

Behind him a huge almost full moon had come into view, but still a cheesy yellow and giving little light.¹⁴

His face, shining with raindrops, had the appearance of damp yellow cheese save where two rosy spots indicated the cheekbones.¹⁵

I'd do what was right, if I dressed in a gown dyed with cheese-colouring;¹⁶

また、黄色ではなく、ブルーチーズのように憂鬱になるという表現もあった。

I want to enjoy myself before age sets in and I suddenly go blue as cheese with a heart condition...¹⁷

e. シャンパン色

淡い黄色と思われるが、辞書などには緑黄色あるいは琥珀色と書かれていることもある。

シャンパン色のストッキング

She was wearing a yellow frock, cut very short as the fashion then was, with champagne-

11 A.S. Byatt, *The Children's Book*, Vintage Books, London, 2010, p.24.

12 Katherine Mansfield, "The Stranger" in *Selected Stories*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2008, The Stranger, p.351.

13 D.H. Lawrence, *The Trespasser*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2002, p.226.

14 Iris Murdoch, *Nuns and Soldiers*, Vintage Classics, London, 2017, p.421.

15 James Joyce, "Ivy Day in the Committee Room" in *Dubliners*, Penguin Classics, London, 1992, p.122.

16 George Eliot, *Silas Marner*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2008, p.93.

17 Lawrence Durrell, *The Avignon Quintet*, Faber and Faber, London, 1992, p.475.

coloured stockings and slippers to match, and she carried a big ostrich-feather fan.¹⁸

シャンパン色の中国のティーローズ

A few words passed between us that evening in the sunken rose garden where they had planted Chinese tea-roses the colour of champagne.¹⁹

f. 大麦糖色

大麦糖の色で、琥珀色とされる。目の色の表現があった。

Everything about him is pale buffs and browns and straw colours—his eyes, his caramel-coloured teeth, his ivory lips, his bushy hay-coloured brows, his barley-sugar smoking eyes,²⁰

g. クリーム色

かなり白色に近い薄い黄色。白色として表現されることも多い。月、牛、肌の色の表現があった。

The creamy moon had become smaller and paler and more metallic.²¹

The lady Roseace had wandered delightedly round this quiet place, touching cool surfaces, tasting cheeses with a pink finger, and had finally walked from the dairy down a flagged passage into a byre where a young man and a young woman were milking two creamy-golden cows,²²

Cynthia was desirous of setting off Molly's rather peculiar charms—her cream-coloured skin, her profusion of curly black hair, her beautiful long-shaped eyes,²³

また、white という語を伴って天井の色の表現があった。

A piece of matting stretched from door to door, a bit of worn caret under the dining-table, and a sideboard in a deep recess, did not detain the eye for a moment from the lofty groined ceiling, with its richly-carved pendants, all of creamy white, relieved here and there by touches of gold.²⁴

18 George Orwell, *Burmese Days*, Penguin Classics, London, 2009, p.119.

19 Lawrence Durrell, *The Avignon Quintet*, Faber and Faber, London, 1992, p.248.

20 A.S. Byatt, *Babel Tower*, Vintage Books, London, 2003, p.395.

21 Iris Murdoch, *The Black Prince*, Vintage Classics, London, 2013, p.310.

22 A.S. Byatt, *Babel Tower*, Vintage Books, London, 2003, p.61.

23 Elizabeth Gaskell, *Wives and Daughters*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2008, p.291.

24 George Eliot, "Mr Gilfil's Love-Story" in *Scenes of Clerical Life*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2009,

2. 白色

白色の食べ物・飲み物と言えば、牛乳であろう。他にはあまり真っ白の食べ物などは身近にないのか、残念ながら、今回は見つからなかった。

a. ミルク色

牛乳のような白色で、かなり多くの例が見受けられた。ここでは、肌の色と服の色だけ例をあげておく。

There were in any case now several stories of her having been solidly seen doing just that, urging herself to and fro, milky-white in the dark.²⁵

There was a Delhi embroidered waistcoat to slip over a milky white shirt,²⁶

また、yellow としているものもあったが、白っぽい黄色であろうか。顔色と夕日に照らされた街の表現があった。

Her face had turned a milky yellow.²⁷

The great city lay pale and milky-yellow in the evening sunshine.²⁸

結び

食べ物も身近なものであるだけに、色の特徴を指し示すのに使いやすいのであろうか、様々な種類のものが使われていた。今回も19世紀以降の作家たちにこれらの表現は多く使われていた。特に黄色は、薄い色から濃い色まで幅が広いと、そのニュアンスを伝えるために使われる食べ物や飲み物の種類も多岐にわたっていた。思い描く色をよりの確に伝えるための創意工夫が見られた。

p.79.

25 A.S. Byatt, *Sugar and Other Stories*, Vintage International, New York, 1992, p.13.

26 Rudyard Kipling, *Kim*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2008, p.171.

27 George Orwell, *Nineteen eighty-four*, Penguin Classics, London, 1989, p.230.

28 Roald Dahl, "The Last Act" in *The Complete Short Stories: Volume Two*, Penguin Books, London, 2013, p.349.