This work has three main focuses, the first is the psychoanalytic approach represented by Object Relation Theory and its critics. The second focus is the linguistic structure aspect as related to Dickey's symbolic use of language. Finally, the third focus which is represented by Dickey's poetic development. The thesis integrates the three aspect by dividing the poet's poetic development into three psychoanalytical stages and by analyzing the distinctive linguistic features of each stage. In the first stage, Dickey tries to find some sort of justification for sense of guilt as a result he uses symbols which are related to animal and natural world. In the second stage, Dickey reflects more maturity and objectivity by describing his war experience and by confronting his guilt more openly. Consequently, the symbols which he uses, are in relation to his early experience. The third stage shows James Dickey's self-integration. In this stage, Dickey is able to transcend his guilt and achieve renewal. Thus the symbol Dickey uses during this stage, reveal how transformation can defeat death.