**THE RELUCTANT FUNDAMENTALIST**

***QUOTATIONS***

***CHAPTER 11:***

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| QUOTATIONS: ORIGINAL VERSION | QUOTATION: ITALIAN TRANSLATION | COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS |
| *“I resolved to look about me with an ex-janissary’s gaze-with, that is to say, the analytical eyes of a product of Princeton and Underwood Samson, but unconstrained by the academic’s and a professionals various compulsions to focus primarily on parts, and free therefore to consider also the whole of your society-upon my return to New York. Seen in this fashion I was struck by how traditional your empire appeared.”* | *“Decisi di guardarmi intorno con lo sguardo di un ex giannizzero, vale a dire con l’occhio analitico di un prodotto di Princeton e della Underwood Samson, ma non più soggetto alle pressioni, prima accademiche e poi professionali, a concentrarmi solo sulle singole parti, e libero quindi di considerare la società come un tutto. Osservandolo in quell’ottica fui colpito da quanto apparisse tradizionale il vostro impero.”* | There is not the Italian version of “*upon my return to New York*”. The form of the quotation change (it is not literally translate), but the message stay the same. |
| ***Reason for choice:*** it explains the importance of an external point of view upon the society. | |
| ***Analysis:*** the allusion to the “Janissary” suggests a connection with the Christianity, therefore suggests common aspects between the two cultures. The sentence *“focus primarily on parts”* is in contrast with another sentence of the novel *(“focus on the fundamentals*”): this suggests that the key to see things is not the fundamentalism, but a moderate vision upon the single parts.  The word *“free”* suggests that the refuse of fundamentalism gives more freedom of choose.  The sentence *“I was struck by how traditional your empire appeared*” suggests an unexpected similarity between Pakistani and American cultures. | |
| ***Possible conclusion:*** the message of this quotation is that if you look to the societies staying between different cultures you can better understand the society. | |
| “*I explained that I had just returned from the institution; had she heard from Erica? Her mother stared at me as though I had slapped her without provocation. <No,> she said, recovering herself and speaking wearily, <I’m afraid not.> <Please know,> I said, <that I will do anything which is of assistance to you.> <Thank you,> she said, inviting me inside.”* | *“spiegai che ero appena tornado dalla clinica, aveva notizie di Erica? La madre mi guardò come se l’avessi schiaffeggiata senza motivo. <No,-disse riscuotendosi, con una voce spossata,-temo di no>. < La prego, tenga presente che sono pronto a fare qualunque cosa possa esservi di aiuto>. <Grazie>, disse, invitandomi a entrare.”* | The Italian version is more formal, but there are not substantial differences. |
| ***Reason for choice***: it engages the theme of desperation. | |
| ***Analysis***: the use of questions and of the dialogue better involve the reader. The metaphor of the slap describes the sensation that a bad notice creates. | |
| ***Possible conclusion***: the reaction in front of desperation is the same for everyone. | |
| *“A few of these places […] I proved unable to find; they had vanished as though they had never existed. Others, like the spot in Central Park where we had gone on our picnic, were easy to locate but seemed to have altered. Perhaps this was the effect of a change in season; perhaps also it was in the city’s nature to be inconstant.”* | *“Alcuni di quei posti […] non riuscii a trovarli; erano scomparsi come se non fossero mai esistiti. Altri, come il punto di Central Park dove avevamo fatto il nostro picnic, li trovai subito ma mi parvero cambiati. Forse era l’effetto del mutamento di stagione; forse l’incostanza faceva parte della natura della città.”* | The translation is not literal but the effect is the same. |
| ***Reason for choice***: it explain the inconstant nature of New York: the main theme is the change. | |
| ***Analysis:*** there is a tone of drama in the sentence. There are many words from the semantic sphere of change *(“vanished”, “altered”, “change”* and *“inconstant”*). This underline that the inconstancy is the main theme. | |
| ***Possible conclusion:*** everything changes: New York is changed like the protagonist’s soul. | |
| *“One evening I was walking with Erica through Union Square and we saw a firefly. <Look!> she said, amazed. <It’s trying to compete with the buildings.> ”* | *“Una sera attraversando Union Square con Erica avevamo visto una lucciola. <Guarda!- aveva detto lei stupita.- pretende di fare concorrenza a questi palazzo>.”* | The word “amazed” in the English version means not just “stupita”; it is a more positive adjective; therefore gives the reader the idea of something admirable. |
| ***Reason for choice***: it is a metaphor: Changez is an insignificant firefly who tries to compete with American model of society. | |
| ***Analysis:*** the firefly is a metaphor that explains Changez’s new aspiration. The fact that Erica was amazed reinforces the protagonist’s determination. | |
| ***Possible conclusion:*** Changez discovers that he wants to compete with economical fundamentalism. | |
| *“And so I left my jacket on the curb as a sort of offering, as my last gesture before returning to Pakistan, a wish of warmth for Erica-not in the way one leaves flowers for the dead, but rather as one twirls rupees above the living.”* | *“Così lasciai la mia giacca sul marciapiede come una sorta di offerta, come ultimo gesto prima di tornare in Pakistan, un augurio di calore per Erica, non come si lasciano dei fiori per I morti ma piuttosto come si agitano le rupie sopra i vivi.”* | The Italian version is less evocative, because it is more descriptive. |
| ***Reason for choice:*** the main theme is the comparison between the different rituality in the two cultures. | |
| ***Analysis:*** there are many words or expressions of religious code (“*offering”, “last gesture”, “flowers for the dead”).* The alliteration of letter “w” suggests a nostalgic feeling. | |
| ***Possible conclusion:*** the two possible reasons of his gesture represent two rites of the two cultures: a Christianity funeral and an Islamic benediction. | |