**THE RELUCTANT FUNDAMENTALIST**

***QUOTATIONS***

***CHAPTER 1:***

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| **Quotations:**Original version | **Quotations:**Italian translation | Comparative analysis |
| “Do not be frightened by my beard: I am a lover of America.” | “Non si faccia spaventare dalla mia barba: io amo l’America.” | In theItalian version the tone is more formal. The use of the active form of the verb “amare” suggests only an emotional (ideological) involvement to America. There is not the idea of a contact with western culture. |
| **Reason for Choice:**This expression shows the use of stereotypes and also the contrast between the cultures. The tone suggests that the American first reaction is the freight of “the other”. |
| **Analysis:**The protagonist approaches an American journalist with this sentence. It immediately evokes the image of the stereotype of an Islamic fundamentalist (according to an American prejudice, a Pakistani with a long beard is an enemy of America), but the narrator denies this prejudice saying:”I’m a lover of America”. In This expression is containing the same contradiction of the title: the contrast between the Islamic fundamentalism and the Western economical one. It is put in evidence by the punctuation: the colon divides the phrase in two parts; the first deals with Changez beard, and in the other he says that he is “a lover of America”. The use of word “lover” suggests that he has been in a sort of relation with America (he had know its culture because he had lived there).  |
| **Possible conclusion:**The sentence evokes the image of the stereotype of an Islamic fundamentalist (according to an American prejudice, a Pakistani with a long beard is an enemy of America), but the narrator denies this prejudice.  |
| “[…]Are typical of a certain type of American” | “[…]sono tipici di un certo tipo di americano” | The two versions have the same style and the alliteration of the sound “t”, therefore there are no syntax differences. |
| **Reason for Choice:**The sentence shows that people follow stereotypes and prejudices. |
| **Analysis:**The use of word “certain” suggests two important aspects: the multiculturalism of America and the concession that not all the Americans responds to a stereotype. The phrase has a tone of superiority that, for this time, makes the America subordinated to another nation. |
| **Possible conclusion:**The most interesting words in this phrase are “typical”, “certain” and “type”. They put in evidence prejudices that come from the idea that there are different types of people and that every type has different characteristics. |
| “His eyes were cold, a pale blue, and judgmental, not in the way that word is normally used, but in the sense of being professionally appraising, like a jeweler’s when he inspects out of curiosity a diamond he intends neither to buy or not to sell.” | “I suoi occhi erano freddi, azzurri e sentenziosi, non nel senso in cui è solitamente usata la parola, ma nel senso di qualcuno abituato per mestiere a giudicare, come un gioielliere quando esamina per curiosità un diamante che non intende ne comprare ne vendere.” | The Italian description of the economist’s eyes is less involvement; for example the word “judgmental” seems stronger than the Italian translation “sentenziosi”. |
| **Reason for choice:**This expression is a description of an American economist eyes. |
| **Analysis:**The use of words “cold” and “judgmental” are probably referred to his soul. He represents the model of American economist: rational, cold, calculating and focusing only on the profits of his work. The metaphor of the jeweler explains that he sees Changez only like an object: he could be precious only if he is a good worker. This is typical of meritocracy: everyone is only what he produces.  |
| **Possible conclusion:**The intelligent reader can understand that America is a meritocracy based on economic fundamentalism. |
| “I knew there were subjects interviewers were not permitted to broach-religion, for example, and sexual orientation-and I suspected financial aid was one of these.” | “Sapevo che c’erano argomenti che nei colloqui non era lecito affrontare, la religione, ad esempio, o l’orientamento sessuale, e sospettavo che il sostegno finanziario fosse uno di quelli.” | The English version and the Italian text present the same grammar scheme. In addition they seem linguistically similes.  |
| **Reason for choice:**It introduces the theme of discrimination |
| **Analysis:**He focuses the reader attention on the “financial aid” to reinforce the idea of a society based on economy. He also refers to the theme of religious conflict (if other religions are not accepted there is always a conflict).  |
| **Possible conclusion:**In every culture there are some causes of discriminations and Changez does not know what can be discriminated in this culture (he “suspected”). |
| “The men and women-yes, the women, too-of my household are working people, professionals.” | “Gli uomini e le donne, sì, anche le donne della mia famiglia sono gente che lavora, professionisti.” | The different punctuation in the Italian version; focuses the reader attention on the word “sì”: the most relevant thing is the interlocutor’s astonishment, not the role of women in Changez family. |
| **Reason for choice:**This sentence shows what is typical of western mentality. |
| **Analysis:**On the one side Changez shows his pride to descend from a family of workers (“working people, professionals”). On the other side he focuses the reader’s attention to the role of women in his family. He also makes the reader understand that his family, a family where also women work, is not so different from an American family. |
| **Possible conclusion:**The intelligent reader can understand that he wants to deny the idea that Islamic women are always discriminated. |