

## ***Three Days of Rain Glossary***

Consistent with the philosophy of both Goethe and Emerson – each of whom is mentioned in the play – that originality is essentially a matter of reassembling elements drawn from other sources, this glossary was created by and culled from various print and online sources by Susan Myer Silton, sometimes with a little whimsy and liberty of opinion.

### **Act I 1995**

*Page numbers refer to the Grove Press version from Three Days of Rain and Other Plays*

#### **Page 5**

**Stravinsky:** Igor Stravinsky (17 June 1882 - 6 April 1971) was a Russian composer, pianist and conductor. Highly influential, he was called one of music's truly epochal innovators. His composition transformed the way in which composers thought about rhythmic structure, contributing to his enduring reputation as a musical revolutionary who pushed the boundaries of musical design. When Walker says, "soaking up the Stravinsky of it ... No end to the sounds in a city..." he is referring to Stravinsky's use of polytonality, dissonances, serial compositional techniques, and a fluid and spontaneous rhythmic structure. When first introduced to the ear, Stravinsky's techniques can sound non-melodic, atonal and cacophonous, and yet, like the sounds of a city, can develop rhythm, unity, clarity and vitality.

A parallel can also be made between Stravinsky's music and the design of the Janeway House, as described by Walker on pages 16 and 17 of the script. The "technical reasons why the house is great" are similar to the technical reasons why Stravinsky's music is great. The interaction of the solids and the voids in the house, the use of glass that provides a different kind of light in every room and the changeable liquidity of the rooms are reflective of Stravinsky's compositional style, which juxtaposed technical innovations in rhythm and harmony, creating a "changing face" as described in the *All Music Guide* while always "retaining a distinctive, essential identity". Like the Janeway House, a Stravinsky work frequently conceals a vein of intense emotion beneath a surface appearance of detachment or austerity – the "frozen music" defined by Goethe and cited by Walker on page 17.

**Acolyte:** someone who follows and admires a leader

**Wexler Janeway:** the Manhattan architectural firm of partners Theodore Wexler and Edmund Janeway, which, as described in the text, "designed all – yes, *all* – of the most famous buildings of the last 30 years" preceding 1995, the time when the play is set.

**Shi'ite Mosque:** the place of worship for the Shi'ites, or members of the two great religious divisions of Islam that regard Ali, the son-in-law of Muhammad, as the legitimate successor of Muhammad, and disregard the three caliphs who –succeeded him.

A model for the Mosque that Walker describes might be the Unity Temple in Oak Park, Illinois, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright or Le Corbusier's Chapel of Notre Dame du Haut in Ronchamp, France.

**Bruges:** the capital and largest city of the province of West Flanders in the Flemish Region of Belgium. It is located in the northwest of the country.

**Janeway House:** a private home designed in 1963 by the firm of Wexler Janeway (see glossary reference to page 5 of the play), located “out in the desirable part of Long Island.” Its innovative, groundbreaking design gave the firm immediate fame and made the partners “spectacularly successful”. The senior Janeways commissioned it of their son, Edmund – Ned in the play – “using all the money they had in the world”.

As Walker describes it, the style of Janeway House would be analogous to the work of Mies van der Rohe, Le Corbusier and Frank Lloyd Wright.

**LIFE Magazine:** an American magazine that was published as a humor and general interest magazine from 1883 until 1936, when magazine magnate Henry Luce purchased it and transformed it to a weekly news magazine with a strong emphasis on photojournalism. Its reputation as a top news magazine grew, and it dominated the market for more than 40 years, chronicling pivotal moments in our social, political and cultural history with excellent writing and photography. *LIFE* notably – and with exquisite imagery – covered the cultural revolution of the 60s. Walker mentions a famous photograph of the Janeway House, published in *LIFE*’s pages in April of 1963, and so beautiful that people won’t see the real place “for fear of ruining the experience of the photograph.”

**Chaplinesque:** reminiscent of the acting style of Charlie Chaplin, considered one of the greatest silent film comics, whose style was highly expressive, though he never spoke a word. Charming and charismatic, he was loved by audiences, playing sympathetic and ingenious characters like the Tramp: underdogs who prevailed despite many obstacles and often championed social causes.

**Torpid:** apathetic, sluggish, or lethargic; unable to move or feel

**Zelda Fitzgerald:** (24 July, 1900 - 10 March, 1948), born Zelda Sayre in Montgomery, Alabama, was an American novelist and the colorful, wild, and enchantingly mad wife of writer F. Scott Fitzgerald.

The youngest of six children, her parents raised Zelda as a free-spirited, imaginative and thoroughly spoiled little girl. By the age of eighteen, when she met F. Scott Fitzgerald at one of the many parties she attended, she embodied the quintessential southern belle. They married on April 3, 1920.

As his wife, she embarked on a new life as a flapper; her husband dubbed her “the first American flapper”. A freethinking woman with the world at her disposal, she was a huge influence on his writing and provided much of the material for his novels and short stories throughout their engagement and marriage. Scott frequently quoted her and her letters directly, using her words as the voice for several of his female characters.

Zelda bore her first and only child at 21, naming her Scottie after her husband. At her daughter’s birth, she was famously quoted as saying, “I hope it’s beautiful and a fool — a beautiful little fool.” Daisy Buchanan, at the birth of her daughter in “The Great Gatsby,” says: “And I hope she’ll be a fool — that’s the best thing a girl can be in this world, a beautiful little fool.”

By 1924, Zelda’s influence on Scott’s writing had become less positive. After an affair with a French naval aviator strained their marriage, Zelda sought fulfillment in other venues. She

exhausted herself by dancing eight hours a day for three years in pursuit of a lifelong dream to be a ballerina. It precipitated her first mental breakdown in 1930, diagnosed as "nervous exhaustion". Zelda was eventually diagnosed with schizophrenia, and would reside in and out of hospitals for the rest of her life.

During her stay at Johns Hopkins hospital in 1932, she wrote her first and only novel: "Save Me the Waltz". A fairly prolific writer, Zelda also wrote eleven short stories and twelve articles during her lifetime.

Writing was not Zelda's only form of artistic expression – she was also a painter. She painted brilliantly colored whimsical, sometimes fantastical works of art.

Perhaps if Zelda had focused on just one form of artistic expression, she would have found her own success and fame independent of her marriage to a famous author. Her accomplishments are still impressive, especially when one takes the context of her life into consideration. As an icon of the Jazz Age, she struggled against her traditional southern upbringing and its societal constraints to create a new, independent identity not just for herself, but also for all American women.

Zelda drifted in and out of Highland Hospital, a psychiatric facility in Asheville, North Carolina, during the last 12 years of her life. She died there in 1948, along with other patients who were sedated and locked in their rooms, in a fire that decimated the hospital.

Walker's description of his mother as "sort of like Zelda Fitzgerald's less stable sister" is neither as facetious nor incongruous as it sounds. The parallels in their lives are profound. Lina was Southern-born, intelligent and sophisticated. She and Zelda married husbands who had early fame in their careers, which started for each at the beginning of their marriage, and which also eclipsed their own talents. Each was eminently quotable, has a kind of delicate elusiveness, and each succumbed to madness

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**Wedge cut:** Popularized by Olympic figure skater Dorothy Hamill in the '70s, wedge haircuts for women have evolved throughout the last few decades offering a variety of sophisticated looks. More of a bowl cut on Hamill, the wedge haircut now features various short, angled layers that hang above the shoulders.

With a wedge haircut, the hair at the nape of the neck is cut the shortest, with the layers growing increasingly longer as they reach the crown of the head. Instead of being cut bluntly – as with a bob cut – the ends of the hair are cut at a variety of angles, creating volume and movement in the hair.

Clean, simple, very chic, the cut has a visual sameness without much personality. Quite high-maintenance, as it requires frequent visits to the salon to maintain its precise angles, the style embodies Walker's image of the stylish and pampered suburban housewife.

**Oriental chicken salad:** a shredded cabbage salad with chicken and sometimes peanuts and/or scallions, it is often dressed with rice vinegar and sesame oil and tossed with crispy fried ramen noodles. Like the wedge haircut, it was trendy and lacked personality.

**Ectomorph:** one of three general body types, the ectomorph is tall and thin. The other two, the mesomorph and endomorph, are respectively, muscular and stocky.

**Plasmic:** Nan is referring to *ectoplasm* here, which is both the outer portion of the cytoplasm of a cell or the ghostly emanation from the body of a medium. In either case, she is using the word to describe something so thin, wispy and ephemeral to be hardly there at all.

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**Maw:** The mouth, stomach, jaws, or gullet of a voracious animal, especially a carnivore. Also, the opening into something felt to be insatiable

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**Rickshaw:** Walker uses the word rickshaw, but he is referring to a trishaw, a vehicle similar to a rickshaw. A rickshaw is a jinrikisha, a small two-wheeled passenger vehicle drawn by one or two men, used in parts of Asia. A trishaw has three wheels and is propelled by a man or woman, pedaling as on a tricycle. It is used in New York City, London, and other Western cities.

**Alacrity:** cheerful readiness, promptness, eagerness or willingness; also, liveliness; briskness. Walker's use is derogatory, implying the naïve eagerness of a suburbanite as contrasted to the more cautious and jaded New Yorker.

**Parish:** An administrative part of a diocese that has its own church in the Anglican, Roman Catholic, and some other churches. Walker uses it sarcastically, referring to the dominant Roman Catholic population of Boston, and that the city, along with Detroit and Chicago, are backwaters compared to New York City.

**Cleric:** A member of the clergy

**Repent:** to be sorry, change ways and/or seek absolution

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**Überkind:** über is a German language word meaning "above", "over" or "across". It is a cognate of both Latin *super* and Greek *ὑπέρ* (*hyper*). *Kinder* is German for "children". (Compare Walker's description of children to his father's on page 79.)

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**Tuscany:** a region in central Italy with an area of about 8,900 square miles and a population of about 3.8 million inhabitants. The regional capital is Florence (Firenze).

Tuscany is known for its landscapes, traditions, history, artistic legacy and its influence on high culture. It is regarded as the birthplace of the Italian Renaissance and has been home to many figures influential in the history of art and science. It contains well-known museums such as the Uffizi and the Pitti Palace. Tuscany produces wines, including Chianti, *Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*, *Morellino di Scansano* and *Brunello di Montalcino*.

The 1990s were a period of great growth in tourism in Tuscany, particularly agritourism, propelling extensive rural development in response to demand. Walker had been misinformed that "nobody goes there anymore," so he felt it would be a great place to hide.

**Belvedere:** a building with a fine view

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**Rucksack:** another word for a knapsack, daypack or backpack. Europeans tend to use the term rucksack, whereas Americans use backpack.

**Obsequies:** funeral rites

**Kitty Carlisle Hart:** (September 3, 1910 - April 17, 2007) an American actress, opera singer, Broadway performer and TV celebrity who supported the development of the arts and cultural institutions, especially in New York. She was a regular panelist in the quiz show “To Tell the Truth” for about 20 years, as well as in other popular variants like “I’ve Got a Secret” and “What’s My Line?” She was known for her contagious laugh and the long couture gowns and distinct hairstyle she favored for nearly every public outing.

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**Tallulah:** Nan could be referring here to a city in, and the parish seat, of Madison Parish in northeastern Louisiana, United States. More likely, she is comparing her mother to Tallulah Bankhead (31 January, 1902 - 12 December, 1968), a vivacious, outrageous, outspoken, hard-drinking, chain-smoking Alabama-born actress known for playing larger-than-life characters. She achieved stardom working in virtually every medium – stage, screen, radio and television – playing herself or roles written for her. However, her fame was attributed more to her outrageous antics than for her work. She reportedly engaged in hundreds of affairs with both men and women. Her biting wit, salty language and outlandish behavior – like the propensity for taking off her clothes at the drop of a hat – shocked, outraged and often delighted everyone.

**Catholic hotel on Twenty-Third Street:** Walker is referring to The Leo House, a Catholic guesthouse for travelers located at 332 West 23rd Street in New York, with the tagline “a place with a heart in New York City”. Centrally located, it provides hospitality to travelers of all religions, both foreign and domestic.

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**Grand Ducal:** of or pertaining to a grand duke, the Grand Ducal is also a palace in Luxembourg City in southern Luxembourg. It was first used as a government building in 1572 and is the official residence of the Grand Duke of Luxembourg, where he performs most of his duties as head of state of the Grand Duchy.

Walker may be referring to the “landed gentry” status of owning an apartment building in Manhattan, or he could be referring to the Grand Ducal’s history of gain and loss, as well as destruction and rebuilding. Resident royal families would vacate as other royals gained accession. During the German occupation in the Second World War, the Nazis used it as a concert hall and tavern, rendering extensive damage and ruining much of the palace's furniture and art collections. After a redecoration when the Grand Duchess Charlotte returned from exile in 1945, the palace once again became the seat of the Grand Ducal Court.

It was thoroughly restored between 1991 and 1996 and is known for its beautiful façade (Flemish Renaissance, 16th century) as well as its majestic interiors.

**Bricolage:** a construction made of whatever materials are at hand; something created from a variety of available things.

**Drafting table:** a worktable with an adjustable top used by artists and architects. It is tall, requiring a tall chair or stool. Its height can be adjusted, as well as the drawing surface, which can be placed at various angles. The architect usually designs on large, plan-sized pieces of vellum,

which are pinned upon the drawing surface, and uses an adjustable arm lamp, sometimes with a magnifying lens, to illuminate his/her work.

I created this document at a drafting table circa 1960. It's wooden surface still bears the pricks from the pushpins used by its former owner throughout his decades-long career as an architect. It has caught up with current fashion – it works very well as a standing desk.

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**“The Princess and the Pea”**: a fairytale by Hans Christian Andersen about a young woman whose royal lineage is proven by her future mother-in-law, who is seeking a wife for her son. The queen places a pea underneath 20 mattresses and 20 feather beds, inviting the princess to sleep there that night. The next morning, she asks her how she slept. The princess complains that she had a terrible night; some hard object she was laying upon made it impossible for her to sleep, and rendered her whole body black and blue.

The queen knew that she must be a real princess, as no one but a real princess, with her delicate and sensitive skin, could feel a pea through twenty mattresses and twenty feather beds. She was deemed worthy of marrying the prince, and presumed to have lived happily ever after, despite her distrusting mother-in-law breathing down her perfect, graceful neck as her husband cowered in some corner of the castle.

**Cipher**: in this context, it would mean a written code

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**Fenestration**: openings in the walls of a structure. The word comes from the Latin for fenestra, meaning window.

**Goethe**: Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (28 August, 1749 - 22 March, 1832) was a German writer. George Eliot called him "Germany's greatest man of letters... and the last true polymath to walk the earth." Goethe's works span the fields of poetry, drama, literature, theology, humanism, and science. Goethe's magnum opus, lauded as one of the peaks of world literature, is the two-part drama *Faust*. Goethe's other well-known literary works include his numerous poems, the *Bildungsroman Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship* and the epistolary novel *The Sorrows of Young Werther*.

Goethe's works were a major source of inspiration in music, drama, poetry and philosophy. He is considered by many to be the most important writer in the German language and one of the most important thinkers in Western culture as well.

See “frozen music”, p. 17

### Page 17

**Frozen music**: the full quote, by Goethe, is “Music is liquid architecture; Architecture is frozen music.”

**Monograph**: a scholarly piece of writing

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**Tinker Toy**: the “TinkerToy Construction Set” it is a toy construction set for children, which was created in 1914 – one year after the A. C. Gilbert Company's Erector Set – by Charles Pajeau,

Robert Pettit and Gordon Tinker in Evanston, Illinois. Pajeau was inspired by children playing with pencils and empty wooden thread spools. He and Pettit set out to market a toy that would allow and inspire children to use their imaginations. At first, this did not go well, but after a year or two, over a million were sold. Manufactured and sold to this day, the set consists of spools, pulleys, wheels, caps, couplings, sticks and other pieces, most of which are made of wood, which can be interlocked to build all kinds of creations. Sets with battery-powered electric motors are also available.

**Modern:** Modern furniture refers to furniture produced from the late 19th century through the present that is influenced by modernism, or the modernist design movement. It was a tremendous departure from all furniture design that had gone before it. Dark or gilded carved wood and richly patterned fabrics gave way to the glittering simplicity and geometry of polished metal. The forms of furniture evolved from visually heavy to visually light.

During the first half of the 20th Century a new philosophy emerged, which emphasized function and accessibility over furniture as ornamentation. The modern movement sought newness, originality and technical innovation. Ultimately the message that it conveyed spoke of the present and the future, rather than of what had gone before it.

Modernist design seems to have evolved out of a combination of influences, namely the technically innovative materials and manufacturing methods, the new philosophies that emerged from the Werkbund and the Bauhaus School, exotic foreign influences, Art Nouveau and the tremendous creativity of the artists and designers of that era.

The chair Nan describes as “large, uncomfortable, Modern” might have been Marcel Breuer's Wassily Chair or the Barcelona chair designed by Mies Van Der Rohe and Lilly Reich; probably the latter, as it doesn't conform at all to the body and is indeed large. A Le Corbusier would be more comfortable, as many of his designs were well padded.

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**Ob-La-Di:** part of the chorus of the Beatles' song “Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da,” written by Paul McCartney and released by the Beatles on their 1968 album “The Beatles”. The full chorus is, “Ob-la-di, ob-la-da, life goes on, bra, la-la-la-la, life goes on”.

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**Abstract Expressionism:** a development of abstract art that originated in New York in the 1940s and 1950s and aimed at subjective emotional expression with particular emphasis on the creative spontaneous act (e.g., action painting). Leading figures were Jackson Pollock and Willem de Kooning.

Another, lesser-known Abstract Expressionist painter was Robert DeNiro, Sr. – yes, Robert DeNiro's father – whom I saw speak at UCSC in 1978. Another tidbit from my art education was that the original Pearl Paint, on Canal Street in Lower Manhattan, supplied most of the canvases, stretcher frames, brushes, paints and solvents to New York's Abstract Expressionist painters. They started in 1933 as a regular paint store on Chambers Street. When a large influx of artists began to squat in the abandoned warehouse spaces in SoHo, making them into studios and illegal homes, Pearl responded by offering art supplies at discount prices. They claim to be the first and largest discount art supply shop in the world.

**Krapp's Last Tape:** a one-act play with a cast of one, it was written by Samuel Beckett in 1958. Jewel Theatre produced it for one weekend in June 2011. It was directed by Patricia Gallagher and acted by Paul Whitworth.

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**Maxwell Anderson:** James Maxwell Anderson (15 December, 1888 - 28 February, 1959) was an American playwright, author, screenwriter, poet, journalist and lyricist. Extolled as one of our most vigorous dramatists" by Brooks Atkinson, Anderson's playwriting was ruthless. He created intense, anguished characters given to "poetic tirades" as described by John Mason Brown in his 1939 review of the play, *Key Largo*. A famous book of Anderson's was *The Bad Seed*.

**Star fruit:** Star Fruit are a juicy tropical fruit grown in Thailand and throughout Southeast Asia, Australia, South America, but also in Hawaii and Florida. Star Fruit are readily available in the US during the winter months. They're low in calories and a good source of Vitamin C, fiber, antioxidants and flavonoids. Their name derives from their star shape when sliced widthwise. They seem like something a soap opera star might choose in 1995, when they were a little more pretentious, expensive, trendy, and of course, low-cal.

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**Pericles, Prince of Tyre:** A Jacobean Romance written by William Shakespeare with a very long and involved plot, much like that of Homer's *Odyssey*. As Pip implies, it would not be easy reading, or a particularly enlightening Shakespeare play to delve into. An actor studying it is probably as pretentious as one eating Star Fruit.

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**Oedipal saga:** a reference to the Sophocles' tragedies of *Oedipus the King* (428 B.C.), *Oedipus at Colonus* (406 B.C.) and *Antigone* (441 B.C.). Oedipus, a mythical Greek king of Thebes, was a tragic hero in Greek mythology. Oedipus fulfilled a prophecy that said he would kill his father and thereby bring disaster on his city and family. He represents two enduring themes of Greek myth and drama: the flawed nature of humanity and an individual's role in the course of destiny in a harsh universe. The contention of the two male characters in Act I arises from Pip's interpretation of the tragic saga, which is pragmatic, and Walker's, which is philosophical.

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**Substitution and alienation of affection:** One of Method acting's concepts and techniques, also used by Uta Hagen, is substitution, where the actor replaces the play's circumstances with his or her own. In a divorce proceeding, alienation of affection is a tort action brought by a deserted spouse against a third party alleged to be responsible for the failure of the marriage. Pip's usage of these terms is a bit outside their usual application, although conceptually, he may be speaking of Ned's "substitution" of himself in the role of son to replace Walker, and the perception on Walker's part of the of his father's lack or alienation of affection for him.

**Colloquies:** conversations, especially formal ones; a written dialogue

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**Hegel:** Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel (27 August, 1770-14 November, 1831) is one of the greatest systematic thinkers in the history of Western philosophy. He is most famous for attempting to elaborate a comprehensive and systematic ontology from a logical starting point. Hegelianism proposed that the rational whole being was greater than the sum of its parts. It was not a "method" or set of principles, but experiential, with experiences becoming data points in



forming the whole. It holds that reality is unfolding, like the chambers of a shell, and that "the rational alone is real". Hegel eschewed Absolute Mind (or Spirit) as a vantage point, in favor of the common, everyday state of mind, whereby a series of moments makes up the whole, defined as "totality".

Hegel clarified his system by likening it to grammar: "You only really see the rewards when you later come to observe language in use and you grasp what it is that makes the language of poetry so evocative". His structure for this logic was an incorporation of thesis and antithesis into synthesis—nothing is negated; it all works together to form the whole.

**Umberto Eco:** born 5 January 1932, Eco is an Italian semiotician, essayist, philosopher, literary critic, and novelist. He is best known for his groundbreaking 1980 historical mystery novel *Il nome della rosa* (The Name of the Rose), an intellectual mystery combining semiotics in fiction, biblical analysis, medieval studies and literary theory. He has since written further novels, including *Il pendolo di Foucault* (Foucault's Pendulum) and *L'isola del giorno prima* (The Island of the Day Before). His most recent novel *Il cimitero di Praga* (The Prague Cemetery), released in 2010, was a best seller.

Eco has also written academic texts, children's books and many essays.

**Boolean Algebra:** introduced in 1854 by George Boole in his book *An Investigation of the Laws of Thought*, Boolean algebra is the subarea of algebra in which the values of the variables are the truth values true and false, usually denoted 1 and 0 respectively. Instead of elementary algebra where the values of the variables are numbers, and the main operations are addition and multiplication, the main operations of Boolean algebra are the conjunction and, denoted  $\wedge$ , the disjunction or, denoted  $\vee$ , and the negation not, denoted  $\neg$ .

Boolean algebra has been fundamental in the development of computer science and digital logic. It is also used in set theory and statistics.

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**Italianate:** Italianized; conforming to the Italian type or style or to Italian customs, manners, etc.; in Art, in the style of Renaissance or Baroque Italy; in Architecture, noting or pertaining to a mid-Victorian American style remotely based on Romanesque vernacular residential and castle architecture of the Italian countryside, but sometimes containing Renaissance and Baroque elements.

**Chiffarobe:** analogous to the term and style of furniture known as an armoire, the chiffarobe was first introduced to the furniture-buying public in the 1908 Sears Catalog. It is basically a tall, freestanding closet that also includes a set of drawers, and is often described as a mixture of an armoire, a wardrobe and a chest of drawers. This furniture style became popular because homes in the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century did not have much closet space; most families did not have many clothes. With the growing affluence of the early 1900s, people needed more hanging storage.

The only other time I've encountered a chiffarobe in literature was in Harper Lee's novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

**Jeffrey Dahmer:** (21 May, 1960 - 28 November, 1994) one of the most notorious serial killers and sex offenders of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Jeffrey Dahmer killed 17 men from 1978 to 1991. He was sentenced to 15 consecutive life terms, and then murdered by a fellow prison inmate in 1994. His

crimes included luring victims into his home, strangling them and then dismembering their bodies. Dahmer's gruesome killings ended on July 22, 1991, when two Milwaukee police officers investigating the claims of an escaped would-be victim directed them to Dahmer's apartment, where they found photographs of dismembered bodies lying around, which included one of a head in the fridge. A subsequent search revealed the head in the fridge, as well as a skeleton, 11 skulls, packages of genitals, and preserved and frozen hearts, muscles, and innards from his 17 slaughtered victims. Otherwise, Dahmer's interior decoration habits haven't come into question, despite Pip's jab.

**Psychosocial:** relating to one's psychological development in, and interaction with, a social environment. Problems that occur in one's psychosocial functioning can be referred to as "psychosocial dysfunction" or "psychosocial morbidity". This refers to the lack of development or atrophy of the psychosocial self, often occurring alongside other dysfunctions that may be physical, emotional, or cognitive in nature.

**Fiat:** an authoritative decree, sanction, or order: a royal fiat; a fixed form of words containing the word fiat, by which a person in authority gives sanction, or authorization; an arbitrary decree or pronouncement, especially by a person or group of persons having absolute authority to enforce it.

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**Gravitas:** one of the Roman virtues, along with *pietas* (piety), *dignitas* (one's past and present reputation, achievement, standing, and honor) and *virtus* (virtue). It may be translated variously as weight, seriousness and dignity, as well as importance, and connotes a certain substance or depth of personality.

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**“not very young, not very merry, but I rode back and forth for hours on the – “:** Walker is referring to a line from Edna St. Vincent Millay's poem, “Recuerdo. Each of the three stanzas begins, “We were very tired, we were very merry—

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**Palimpsest:** a manuscript page from a scroll or book from which the text has been scraped or washed off and which can be used again. The term has come to be used in similar context in a variety of disciplines, notably architectural archaeology and geomorphology.

**Pentimento:** an alteration in a painting, evidenced by traces of previous work, showing that the artist has changed his or her mind as to the composition during the process of painting. The word is Italian for repentance, from the verb *pentirsi*, meaning to repent.

It's also the title of one of my favorite books, written by Lillian Hellman in 1973. One of its chapters was made into the movie, *Julia*, in 1977, which starred Vanessa Redgrave and Jane Fonda. Great movie.

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**Hedda Gabler:** a play published in 1890 by Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen, it premiered in 1891 in Germany to negative reviews, but has subsequently gained recognition as a classic of realism, nineteenth century theatre, and world drama. The character of Hedda is considered by many to be one of the great dramatic roles in theatre.

Walker is referring to the middle of the third act of the play, where Hedda Gabler burns Ejlert Lövborg's manuscript page by page, saying she is burning the child of him and Mrs. Elvsted, his writing and research aide. Ejlert is back in town after sobering up and writing a bestseller. He's the old academic rival of Hedda's husband, Tesman. Hedda regards him as a threat to Tesman's career, as both are being considered for the same university position. Ejlert has spent the last few years laboring on the manuscript, of which there is only one copy. He believes it to be his masterpiece, the sequel to his recently published and very well-received book. When Tesman learns Hedda burned the manuscript, he is horrified. Though somewhat jealous of Ejlert's success, he disapproves of Hedda's act, calling it "maniacal".

## Act II 1960

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**Vie de bohème:** an unconventional or informal way of life, especially as practiced by an artist or writer. Usually said "la vie de Bohème", it translates in French literally as "bohemian's life".

**House of Morgan:** J.P. Morgan & Co. was a commercial and investment banking institution based in the United States founded by J. Pierpont Morgan. It is commonly known as the House of Morgan or simply Morgan. Today, J.P. Morgan is the investment banking and private banking arm of JPMorgan Chase.

Lina, following the convention, calls it the House of Morgan, although J.P. Morgan operated as the Morgan Guaranty Trust between 1959 and 1989, following its merger with the Guaranty Trust Company of New York.

**Plaza:** The Plaza Hotel, located in the borough of Manhattan, New York City, is a landmark 20-story luxury hotel that occupies the west side of Grand Army Plaza, from which it derives its name. It extends along Central Park South in Manhattan, Fifth Avenue extending along the east side of Grand Army Plaza.

Noted for its luxurious interiors and impeccable service, it is often frequented by people with celebrity, wealth and social status. It was also featured in film around the 1960s; Lina, Theo and Ned might have seen it in the original 1956 TV film *Eloise*, starring Evelyn Rudie as Eloise, the child who lived "on the top floor", with cameo appearances by hotel magnate Conrad Hilton and *Eloise* author Kay Thompson. Although the hotel had appeared briefly in earlier films, it made its major film debut in the 1959 film *North by Northwest*.

Beginning in May 2005, the Plaza's contents were available to the public via a liquidation sale, making way for a major renovation. The Plaza reopened on March 1, 2008, offering 282 hotel rooms and 152 private condo hotel units; Fairmont Hotels and Resorts manage it. Diamond retailer Lev Leviev put in the first bid for a Plaza apartment at \$10 million.

**Farmington:** Lina is referring to Miss Porter's School, the jewel of Farmington, Connecticut, an affluent and very upscale suburb of Hartford. Miss Porter's, an exclusive college preparatory school for girls whose buildings occupy much of the village center, is a significant historic and cultural institution in its own right. Founded in 1843 by educational reformer Sarah Porter, Miss Porter's has long been one of the most selective preparatory schools for girls in the country. Famous alumni include Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Lilly Pulitzer and members of the Bush, Vanderbilt, and Rockefeller families.

**Peter Pan collars:** A Peter Pan collar is a popular term for a style of clothing collar. It is named after the collar of Maude Adams's costume in her 1905 role as Peter Pan, although similar styles had been worn before this date.

The Peter Pan collar is a form of flat collar, one of the three basic collar types along with stand and roll collars. It is cut to fit around the neckline, following the curve, and to lie flat upon the torso. It can be made either as one part, with a front-fastening bodice, or in two parts to accommodate a back fastening while retaining the front opening. It is defined as small and soft, with rounded corners.

In the 1950s, 60s and early 70s, it was a fashion favored by privileged young women of high school age attending private academies and preparatory schools, as well as young women attending exclusive, tony colleges. The students of the all-girl preparatory school I attended wore it with a string of pearls around the neckline underneath the collar, showing demurely in-between the collar's rounded inside edges. Alternately, they would fasten a circle pin on either of the inside collar edges, connecting them and sitting perfectly centered between them. This was one of the few adornments permitted for the academy's school uniform. The style was in its last viable years when I graduated. Being a counter-culture revolutionary at the time, I wouldn't be caught dead in it.

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**Mt. Holyoke:** see the Farmington entry in the glossary entries from page 48 of the play, and think Miss Porter's School for *College Girls*. Mt Holyoke College, a selective liberal arts college for women in South Hadley, Massachusetts, was the first member of the Seven Sisters colleges and served as a model for some of the others. Mount Holyoke is part of the Pioneer Valley's Five College Consortium, along with Amherst College, Smith College, Hampshire College, and the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

The school, originally founded by Mary Lyon in 1837 as Mount Holyoke Female Seminary, received its collegiate charter in 1888 as Mount Holyoke Seminary and College and became Mount Holyoke College in 1893.

U.S. News & World Report lists Mount Holyoke as the 38th best liberal arts college in the United States in its 2013 rankings. Mount Holyoke was also ranked #1 in the nation for Best Classroom Experience in the Princeton Review 2010-2011 rankings. In 2011-2012, Mount Holyoke is one of the nation's top producers of Fulbright Scholars, ranking fourth among bachelor's institutions according to the Chronicle of Higher Education.

Mt. Holyoke spawned many famous graduates who would go on to do great things; my favorite among them is Wendy Wasserstein, whose 1977 play, *Uncommon Women and Others*, is based upon her experiences at Mount Holyoke in the early 1970s.

**Christopher Wren:** Sir Christopher Michael Wren (20 October 1632 - 25 February 1723) is one of the most highly acclaimed English architects in history, whose masterpiece, St. Paul's Cathedral, on Ludgate Hill, London, was completed in 1710. Other notable buildings by Wren include the Royal Naval College in Greenwich, and the south front of Hampton Court Palace. The Wren Building, the main building at the College of William and Mary, is attributed to Wren. It is the oldest academic building in continuous use in the United States.

Educated in Latin and Aristotelian physics at the University of Oxford, Wren was a notable astronomer, geometer, and mathematician-physicist, as well as an architect. He was a founder of the Royal Society and served as president from 1680-82. His scientific work was highly regarded by Sir Isaac Newton and Blaise Pascal.

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**Joycean riff:** James Augustine Aloysius Joyce (2 February 1882 - 13 January 1941) was an Irish novelist and poet, considered to be one of the most influential writers in the modernist avant-garde of the early 20th century. Joyce is best known for his novel, *Ulysses* (1922), a landmark work in which the episodes of Homer's *Odyssey* are paralleled in an array of contrasting literary styles, perhaps most prominent among these the stream of consciousness technique he perfected. Other major works are the short-story collection *Dubliners* (1914), and the novels *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (1916) and *Finnegan's Wake* (1939). His complete oeuvre also includes three books of poetry, a play, occasional journalism, and his published letters.

Joyce was famous for his mastery of language, among them the riffs - quick, witty remarks that he and his characters employed - often as part of a rapid exchange. He was a master of rhetoric as well as a master of mimicry. However, his preferred figure of speech was one of the lowest, the pun. This was in direct contrast to the epiphanies, or moments of spiritual insight, he was also known for.

**Palm Court:** a dining room located in the Plaza Hotel (see glossary entry for page 48 of the play), its ornate, curved glass ceilings, reminiscent of the Grand Palais in Paris, are so high that full-sized palm trees are part of its luxurious décor.

**Expurgated Jane Austen:** to expurgate is to amend a book, text, etc., by removing obscene or offensive sections. Since there are none in Jane Austen's books, Theo is describing someone quite precious.

**Lambert, Hendricks and Rossish jazz satire:** Jazz vocalists Dave Lambert, Jon Hendricks and Annie Ross formed the vocalese trio, Lambert, Hendricks & Ross. They are among the originators of vocalese, which adds lyrics to existing instrumental songs and replaces many instruments, such as the Big Band arrangements of Duke Ellington and Count Basie, with vocalists. Lambert, Hendricks & Ross revolutionized vocal music during the late '50s and early '60s by turning away from the increasingly crossover slant of the pop world to embrace the sheer musicianship inherent in vocal jazz.

Applying the concepts of bop harmonies to swinging vocal music, the trio transformed dozens of instrumental jazz classics into their own songs, taking scat solos and trading off licks and riffs in precisely the same fashion as their favorite improvising musicians. Vocal arranger Dave Lambert wrote dense clusters of vocal lines for each voice that, while only distantly related, came together splendidly. Jon Hendricks wrote clever, witty lyrics to jazz standards like "Summertime", "Moanin'", and "Twisted", and Annie Ross proved to be one of the strongest, most dexterous female voices in the history of jazz vocals. Together Lambert, Hendricks & Ross paved the way for vocal groups like Manhattan Transfer and vocalists like Bobby McFerrin and Al Jarreau, while earning respect from vocalists and jazz musicians alike.

There's a chance that either Jon Hendricks or Annie Ross wrote the lyrics that Theo sings to Lina, or that they are part of a song that was recorded by Lambert, Hendricks & Ross, but I haven't

found proof of that. (However, I have written to George Lane, who represents Richard Greenberg and asked for more information about it.)

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**Heidegger:** Martin Heidegger (26 September, 1889 - May 26, 1976) was a German philosopher known for his existential and phenomenological explorations of the "question of Being". He is known for offering a phenomenological critique of Kant and wrote extensively on Nietzsche and Hölderlin in his later career. Heidegger's influence has been far reaching, influencing fields such as philosophy, theology, art, architecture, artificial intelligence, cultural anthropology, design, literary theory, social theory, political theory, psychiatry, and psychotherapy.

His best-known book, *Being and Time*, is considered one of the most important philosophical works of the 20th century. In it and later works, Heidegger maintained that our way of questioning defines our nature. He argued that philosophy, Western civilization's chief way of questioning, had lost sight of the being it sought. Finding ourselves "always already" fallen in a world of presuppositions, we lose touch with what Being was before its truth became "muddled". As a solution to this condition, Heidegger advocated a return to the practical Being in the world, allowing it to reveal, or "unconceal" itself as concealment.

Heidegger is a controversial figure, largely for his affiliation with Nazism prior to 1934, for which he neither apologized nor expressed regret, except in private when he called it "the biggest stupidity of his life". Perhaps he was referring to the climate that compelled his choice to support Nazism when he spoke of the obscuring light of the public.

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**Moses:** a figure in the Hebrew Bible, the Qur'an, Baha'i scripture, and Christian Old Testament, Moses was a religious leader, lawgiver, and prophet. He is known for the Exodus, or leading the Hebrew people out of Egypt where they were enslaved, and for presenting the Ten Commandments. He is also credited with authorship of the Torah. Moses is the most important prophet in Judaism; he is also an important prophet in Christianity and Islam, as well as a number of other faiths. Rabbinical Judaism calculates a lifespan of Moses corresponding to 1391 -1271 BC.

Apparently, he also stuttered (but try telling that to Charlton Heston).

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**Demosthenes:** (384 - 322 BC) a prominent Greek statesman and orator of ancient Athens, and supposedly, a stutterer.

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**Rochefoucauld:** François VI, Duc de La Rochefoucauld, Prince de Marcillac (15 September 1613 - 17 March 1680) was a noted French author of maxims and memoirs. He offered a clear-eyed, worldly view of human conduct without condemnation or sentimentality. Born in Paris on the Rue des Petits Champs, at a time when the royal court was oscillating between aiding the nobility and threatening it, he was considered an exemplar of the accomplished 17th-century nobleman. Until 1650, he bore the title of Prince de Marcillac. His importance as a social and historical figure is overshadowed by his towering stature in French literature. His literary work consists of three parts—his *Memoirs*, the *Maximes* (Maxims) and his letters.

The *Memoirs* are of high interest and literary merit. His letters number more than a hundred, and they are of both biographical and literary value. La Rochefoucauld made frequent alterations and additions to his *Maximes* during his lifetime and a few were added after his death. Now they are usually published in their totality of 504. The majority consists of just two or three lines, and hardly any exceed half a page. In them, Rochefoucauld reflects on the conduct and motives of mankind, from the point of view of a man of the world who intends not to sugarcoat his observations. In fact, in his introduction, he advises, "...the best approach for the reader to take would be to put in his mind right from the start that none of these maxims apply to himself in particular, and that he is the sole exception, even though they appear to be generalities. After that I guarantee that he will be the first to endorse them and he will believe that they do credit to the human spirit".

La Rochefoucauld's thoughts on human nature concern, among a broad range of topics, pride and self-love, the passions and the emotions, love, sincerity, conversation, and politics. And darn, that guy could rock a wig!

**Nietzsche:** Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche (5 October 1844 - 25 August 1900) was a German philologist, philosopher, cultural critic, poet and composer. He wrote several critical texts on religion, morality, contemporary culture, philosophy and science, displaying a fondness for metaphor, irony and aphorism.

Nietzsche had contempt for Christianity, morality, conscience, and altruism. He considered all to be weaknesses and he deplored weaknesses. He declared that the "will to power" was the highest good, and advocated a race of supermen, creatures physically powerful, unscrupulous and pitiless.

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**Emerson:** Ralph Waldo Emerson (25 May, 1803 - 27 April, 1882) was born in Boston, Massachusetts; an American essayist, poet, and leader of the Transcendentalist movement, he was one of the most influential literary figures of the nineteenth century. Emerson's distinctly American philosophy emphasized optimism, individuality, and mysticism. Raised to be a minister in Puritan New England, Emerson sought to "create all things new" with a philosophy stressing the recognition of God Immanent, the presence of ongoing creation and revelation by a God apparent in all things and who exists within everyone. Also crucial to Emerson's thought is the related Eastern concept of the essential unity of all thoughts, persons, and things in the divine whole. Traditional values of right and wrong, and good and evil appear in his work as necessary opposites, evidencing the effect of German philosopher G. W. F. Hegel's system of dialectical metaphysics. (See the glossary entry from page 34 of the play.) Emerson's works also emphasize individualism and each person's quest to break free from the trappings of the illusory world (Maya) in order to discover the godliness of the inner Self.

Emerson's philosophy was of nature and often about nature. He found his vision, inspiration and revelations during the moments he spent in nature, which provides the basis of Theo's conceit of finding inspiration on the IRT. When he was not on the lecture circuit, Emerson indulged in weekday walks. In order to preserve a hold on nature, he bought fourteen acres of woodland on Lake Walden in 1843. Though it was a financial burden for several years, he provided its use to his friend, protégé, and fellow Transcendentalist, Henry David Thoreau. Thoreau lived on the northern shore of the pond for two years starting in the summer of 1845. His account of the experience was recorded in *Walden*; or, *Life in the Woods*, and made the pond famous. Today, the Concord Museum contains the bed, chair, and desk from Thoreau's cabin.

Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts is my son, Max's, alma mater. It graduates writers like him, as well as actors, singers and other theatre artists.

**I.R.T.:** basically, the A train of the subway system in New York City. I.R.T., usually written without periods, stands for Interborough Rapid Transit Company, the private operator of the original underground New York City Subway line that opened in 1904, as well as earlier elevated railways and additional rapid transit lines in New York City. The City purchased the IRT in June 1940. The former IRT lines (the numbered lines in the current subway system) are now the A Division or IRT Division of the subway.

**Cole Porter:** Contrary to Theo's contention, Cole Porter may not have been a virtuoso, but he was a pretty good piano player and a somewhat decent singer. Cole Albert Porter (9 June, 1891 - 15 October, 1964) was better known as an American composer and songwriter. Born into a wealthy family, he received classical training, but became drawn towards musical theatre. After a slow start, he began to achieve success in the 1920s, and by the 1930s he was one of the major songwriters for the Broadway musical stage. Unlike many successful Broadway composers, Porter wrote the lyrics as well as the music for his songs.

After a serious horseback riding accident in 1937, Porter was left disabled and in constant pain, but he continued to work. His shows of the early 1940s did not contain the lasting hits of his best work of the 1920s and 30s, but in 1948 he made a triumphant comeback with his most successful musical, *Kiss Me, Kate*. It won the first Tony Award for Best Musical.

Porter's other musicals include *Fifty Million Frenchmen*, *DuBarry Was a Lady*, *Anything Goes*, *Can-Can* and *Silk Stockings*. His numerous hit songs include "Night and Day", "I Get a Kick Out of You", "Well, Did You Evah!", "I've Got You Under My Skin", "My Heart Belongs to Daddy", and "You're the Top". He also composed scores for films from the 1930s to the 1950s, including *Born to Dance* (1936), which featured the song "You'd Be So Easy to Love", *Rosalie* (1937), which featured "In the Still of the Night"; *High Society* (1956), which included "True Love"; and *Les Girls* (1957).

Porter was a master of internal rhyme, or middle rhyme, which occurs within a single line of a verse. Because he wrote both, he married music and lyrics beautifully. His tunes are sophisticated fun, but also sometimes raunchy; he wasn't afraid of being risqué. His lyrics are incredibly clever, without seeming mannered or overwritten. He used puns, turned language on its head, and his rhyming often paired the sublime with the ridiculous. He is my favorite songwriter (and if you get me tipsy enough, you just might get me to sing one of his songs).

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**Farnsworth House:** designed and built by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe from 1946 to 1951 in Plano, Illinois, Farnsworth House is considered a paradigm of international style architecture in America. Commissioned as a country retreat by a prominent Chicago nephrologist, Edith Farnsworth, the house is a clear example of Mies's philosophy of "less is more". The house's structure consists of precast concrete floor and roof slabs supported by a carefully crafted steel skeleton frame of beams, girders and columns. The facade is made of single panes of glass spanning from floor to ceiling, fastened to the structural system by steel mullions. Radiant coils set in the concrete floor heat the building; natural cross ventilation and the shade of nearby trees provide minimal cooling. Though it proved difficult to live in, the Farnsworth House's elegant simplicity is still regarded as an important accomplishment of the International Style. The Farnsworth house is Mies's summary statement of those spatial and architectural concerns he first



realized in the Barcelona Pavilion, and which he further developed in the Tugendhat house. However, within a pure expression of its age is another vision, that of a transparent house in a verdant landscape. The home was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2006, after joining the National Register of Historic Places in 2004. The house is currently owned and operated as a house museum by the historic preservation group, National Trust for Historic Preservation.

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**Homage:** expression of high regard; something that shows respect or attests to the worth or influence of another

**Vanguard:** the group of people who are the leaders of an action or movement in society, politics, art, etc.; advance troops, or the soldiers, ships, etc., which are at the front of a fighting force moving forward. Ned is talking here about the progressiveness of his and Theo's work; they are innovative and ahead of the pack.

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**Reynolds:** Sir Joshua Reynolds (1723 - 1792) is considered the most important English painter. He raised the artist to a position of respect in England. As the first president of the Royal Academy, his annual discourses were a significant exposition of academic style, propounding eclectic generalization over direct observation and allusion to the classical past over the present. His "Grand Style" set forth the techniques of the old Italian masters – of whom Michelangelo was his most admired – as well as Rembrandt, Rubens, Van Dyck and other European masters.

The “essay” that Ned tells Theo he is forever quoting is not actually an essay. Instead, the idea of talent being divided into genius and taste comes from the Seventh Discourse, one of Reynolds' Discourses on Art, a series of lectures presented at the Royal Academy from 1769 to 1790. In the Seventh Discourse, Reynolds says: “To speak of genius and taste as in any way connected with reason or common-sense would be, in the opinion of some towering talkers, to speak like a man who possessed neither; who had never felt that enthusiasm, or, to use their own inflated language, was never warmed by that Promethean fire, which animates the canvas and vivifies the marble.”

He then quotes from “Essay on Taste” by William Hazlitt: “Genius is the power of producing excellence; taste is the power of perceiving the excellence thus produced in its several sorts and degrees, with all their force, refinement, distinctions, and connections”.

Later in the Discourse, he says: “Genius and taste, in their common acceptation appear to be very nearly related; the difference lies only in this, that genius has superadded to it a habit or power of execution; or we may say that taste, when this power is added, changes its name, and is called genius. They both, in the popular opinion, pretend to an entire exemption from the restraint of rules. It is supposed that their powers are intuitive; that under the name of genius great works are produced, and under the name of taste an exact judgment is given, without our knowing why, and without our being under the least obligation to reason, precept, or experience.

One can scarce state these opinions without exposing their absurdity; yet they are constantly in the mouths of men, and particularly of artists. They who have thought seriously on this subject do not carry the point so far; yet I am persuaded that, even I among those few who may be called thinkers, the prevalent opinion allows less than it ought to the powers of reason, and considers the principles of taste, which give all their authority to the rules of art, as more fluctuating, and as having less solid foundations, than we shall find upon examination they really have.”

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**Palaver:** talk that is not important or meaningful; excitement and activity that is caused by something that is not important

**Original Sin:** from the Book of Genesis in the Bible, the state of sin that, according to Christian theology, characterizes all human beings as a result of the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden; a wrong of great magnitude and repercussive effect

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**Reinhold Niebuhr:** an American Protestant theologian (21 June, 1892 - 1 June, 1971), born in Wright City, Missouri, who had extensive influence on political thought and whose criticism of the prevailing theological liberalism of the 1920s significantly affected the intellectual climate within American Protestantism. His exposure as a pastor in Detroit to the problems of American industrialism led him to join the Socialist Party for a time. A former pacifist, he actively persuaded Christians to support the war against Hitler and after World War II had considerable influence in the U.S. State Department. His most prominent theological work was *The Nature and Destiny of Man*, which was planned as a synthesis of the theology of the Reformation with the insights of the Renaissance.

He is best known for authoring the Serenity Prayer, which is used by Alcoholics Anonymous and other 12-step programs. It goes like this: “God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference”.

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**Trimalchian:** derived from the Italian word Trimalcìonico, is associated with banquets, and comes from a character, Trimalcione, in *Satyricon* by Petronio. Trimalcione gives a huge banquet, which is grandiose, sumptuous and spectacular.

**The World of Suzie Wong:** first a best-selling novel by Richard Mason, it was adapted for the stage by Paul Osborn and then adapted as a screenplay by John Patrick. It tells the story of an expatriate American architect named Robert Lomax who pursues a new career as a painter in Hong Kong. He finds his perfect model in Suzie Wong, a beautiful prostitute whose lifestyle creates personal problems for the couple. The stage version had William Shatner – yes, Captain Kirk – as Robert Lomax and France Kwan as Suzie Wong. William Holden and Nancy Kwan were the leads in the movie. The book was published in 1957, and spent more than three months on the New York Times bestseller list. The stage play, directed by Joshua Logan, opened on Broadway at the Broadhurst Theatre on October 14, 1958 and ran for 508 performances, closing at the 54<sup>th</sup> Street Theatre on January 2, 1960. The movie, directed by Richard Quine, had its World Premiere in New York City on November 10, 1960.

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**“Brown study”:** a state of deep thought, from the words “brown” or gloomy, and “study” or thought; mood of deep absorption or thoughtfulness; reverie.

**March from Scipio:** The German-born British Baroque composer George Friedrich Handel’s (23 February, 1685 - 14 April, 1759) opera, *Scipio*, was written in 1725 and performed the following year in the King’s Theatre, London.

The opera is in three acts and had a libretto by Paolo Antonio Rolli, based on a libretto by Antonio Salvi and on the histories of Livy. The opera’s hero, Scipio, is a Roman centurion who has

recently conquered New Carthage. He is in love with the captive Berenice but magnanimously releases her to her beloved Allucius, an Iberian Prince.

After Handel's death his operas fell into obscurity and only since the 1960s have they been rediscovered in the opera house. The famous "March from Scipio" has however remained popular since its first performance and has been the Regimental Slow March of the British Grenadier Guards since the 18th century.

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**Belletrist:** a writer concerned only with the aesthetic function of literature as a fine art, a belletrist is involved in the belles artes, a French word describing literature that is an end in itself and not merely informative; specifically: light, entertaining, and often sophisticated literature.

**Anaïs Nin:** (21 February, 1903 - 14 January, 1977) a French-born novelist, passionate eroticist and short story writer, she gained international fame with her journals. Spanning the years from 1931 to 1974, they give an account of one woman's voyage of self-discovery. In *The Diary of Anaïs Nin*, vol. I, (1966), she writes, "It's all right for a woman to be, above all, human. I am a woman first of all".

Nin is hailed by many critics as one of the finest writers of female erotica. She was one of the first women known to explore fully the realm of erotic writing, and certainly the first prominent woman in the modern West known to write erotica. Before her, erotica acknowledged to be authored by women was rare.

Anaïs Nin was largely ignored until the 1960s. Today she is regarded as one of the leading women writers of the 20th-century and a source of inspiration for women challenging conventionally defined gender roles.

When Theo sees Lina as "something from Anaïs Nin ... gloomy ... and opaque", Nin's journals had not yet been published, but *Cities of the Interior* had. It is a novel sequence published in one volume containing the five books of Anaïs Nin's "continuous novel": *Ladders to Fire*, *Children of the Albatross*, *The Four-Chambered Heart*, *A Spy in the House of Love* and *Seduction of the Minotaur*. This combined volume was first published by the author in 1959.

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**Quattrocento-pale:** The Quattrocento refers to the totality of cultural and artistic events and movements that occurred in Italy during the 15th century, the major period of the Early Renaissance. It comes from the Italian for four-hundred, short for mille quattrocento, or one thousand four hundred.

Leonardo's paintings of Ginevra de' Benci, Cecilia Gallerani, and of course, the painting that is known as the *Mona Lisa* are among many representative examples of the women that Lina describes as pale and smugly knowing, which also include Botticelli's *Young Woman in Mythological Guise* and Roger van der Weyden's *Study of a Young Woman*, painted about 1455.