

TOTAL FREEDOM

The notion that reason, the beacon of intellectual progress, could lead to the delusion of the individual intrigued Clara. In the pursuit of reason, the triumph of the self became a double-edged sword—one that could liberate and enlighten, but also ensnare in the treacherous web of self-indulgence.

Sade's exploration of the dangers inherent in unchecked reason resonated with Clara. She considered how the pursuit of pleasure, the unrestrained adherence to the pleasure principle, could be a manifestation of reasonable self-interest? Was the libertine philosophy, with its emphasis on the sovereignty of individual desire, an application of reason to satisfy one's primal instincts?

What were these primal instincts? Were people wound up tight like these automatons. It was only a matter of turning the key.

“Tell me who you are? What makes you tick? What are you all about?”

“This is not a lab. I am not in a cage.”

What did it mean to stretch the societal norms? Did this provide access to a deeper form of personal liberation? Did the individual have the power to transcend the limitations of creation?

“What are you talking about?”

As Clara contemplated these philosophical questions, she couldn't help but wonder if Reunion, the society she lived in, allowed for such profound conversations. Were the bounds of reason and pleasure constrained by social pressures to day things that were acceptable to others. Did the civility only hide the rivalries underneath?

“Reunion, with its veneer of utopia, revealed itself as a society with hidden undercurrents, where the tension between reason and desire simmered beneath the surface.”

“What the fuck are you talking about?”

“Why are we here? Why do we do what we do?”

“Where is this headed?”

“We are prepared for the big wave.”

Clara's curiosity led to further questions. This could inspire other conversations.

“Have you done the research?”

“What is beyond this harmony?”

“Someone hates Clara.”

“You are mean.”

“You want to run the party.”

“That goes nowhere.”

“It can be explained with reason, but it is never reasonable.”

“And we forget what that was about.”

“Do not love me if you cannot love me.”

“All within reason.”

“We start to do some strange things.”

“It failed.”

“I could feel it.”

“I could feel it.”
 “You are not going to pass the next phase. You assume that you have things thatb you do not have.”
 “We are breaking the boundaries that have held us back.”
 “And you believe that.”
 “You are weaker than you realize.”
 “I have a purpose.”
 “I need a friend.”
 “You are weird.”
 “The break with reason.”
 “Clara, you will figure it out.”
 There were skeptics, who warned against the tyranny of individual desires.
 “This is not what you think it is.”
 “Moral principles decay with the total commitment to physical desire.”
 “Who are you?”
 “The prince of darkness.”
 “I am already finished.”
 “Everyone will wonder.”
 “He is doing the best that he can.”
 Did anyone at Reunion really care?
 “How would caring look?”
 “Alice tried to represent it in her art, and she lost her focus.”
 “Look at me.”
 “We will.”
 “This is all about the results of unchecked individualism.”
 “I am myself.”
 “Untangle.”
 “We are back on the island.”
 “How do you get deliveries?”
 “By plane.”
 “By boat.”
 “What do you really want?”
 “Had he arrived?”
 “That is all that I want.”
 “I brought you a quart of milk.”
 “Is that the art now?”
 “We need this place to be who we are.”
 “Do you love me?”
 “This is becoming tragic.”
 “It is all about respect.”
 “What do you respect?”
 “Sade was able to devise these scenes with a level of total rational control.”
 “It could be worse.”

“The storm song.”

“Rational self-interest was the cornerstone of a harmonious society.”

“Are you a member of one of those libertarian think tanks?”

“This could be worse?”

“I am the Alpha and the Omega.”

“Which order is this?”

“The feel better cult.”

“What does this have to do with rationality?”

“You discipline your emotions.”

“I am trying to understand.”

“Where does this go?”

“Is he kidding?”

“He is kidding?”

“There is not story here?”

“This is flame resistant.”

“We will not get too excited.”

“I am too excited.”

“I sleep until the next day.”

“I get in my car, and I change things.”

“Why does reason have seductive appeal?”

“Do I need to tolerate this?”

“We are eroding the foundation of our society.”

“Do you parents say this to you all the time?”

The workplace had become a stage for the display of individual desires, with little regard for the greater good. For Clara and her friends, the connection between their jobs and the pleasure principle. But people at Reunion had lost any sense of class consciousness. They felt the effects of exploitation.

“The once clear understanding of societal structures and the interconnectedness of our roles has faded into the background. In its place, a hedonistic ethos has taken root. The focus on the self, on the pursuit of pleasure, had eroded the collective spirit that once held us together.”

“That is harsh.”

“Say what needs to be said.”

“Do not hurt me.”

“Is that all that you have to say for yourself?”

“I know what I want for myself.”

“To make fun happen.”

“I am a scary person.”

“That is this Sade shit.”

“What happened in the first reel?”

“All we have here are our conversations. We need to make what we will of these experiences.”

“How do you hold it together?”

“The onversations are more strategic.”

“You look wonderful.”
 “Who is my rival?”
 “Clara, this is all fantasy.”
 “Do not hurt me.”
 “Humor is everywhere.”
 “And what about the deep desires?”
 “What do you really want.”
 “I cannot give that much of myself away.”
 “What does reason say?”
 “Are you kidding?”
 “I am not kidding.”
 “Do not kid.”
 “I have been there before.”
 “I am going to be honest.”
 “Go for it.”
 “Do you have a philosophy?”
 “Dance with me. Romance me.”
 “Nobody says that.”
 “I help you draw a map.”
 “This is all about prime posing space. We want people to envy what we have. They consider how they can take it from us.”
 “Come at me, bitch!”
 “Where does that come from?”
 “That will work for me.”
 “What will work for you?”
 “That ways of acting, that way of dressing, that way of being happy.”
 “The way that you walk.”
 “Walk on, lover.”
 “Why am I going to like it here?”
 “You do not have to go anywhere else.”
 “Concentrate.”
 “He has got it.”
 “I do not.”
 “This is not desperation.”
 “You have an audience. And you believe that you can build it an turn it into something else.”
 “We all get marked.”
 “What has happened to me?”
 “You hurt me.”
 “It is almost that time.”
 “Go all the way.”
 “Go all the way!”
 “I cannot look.”

“Why are we going that way?”
“That is the the movement of reason.”
“What did she do wrong?”
“She did not respect the truth.”
“Respect it.”
“It all gets more tense.”
“We describe the world in a way to make us feel good.”
“What about those on the island?”
“What is the prospect for the bigger world?”
“We are looking for the common purpose.”
“You need to go deeper.”
“I am swimming with the sharks.”
“They may attack you.”
“That happens all the time.”
“Do you know me”
“I know your lover.”
“Everything can be seem”
“Everything is possible.”
“Everything must be said.”
“Say it over and over again.”
“Why am I like this?”
“Why not?”
“I will be saved.”
“Show me what you know.”
“What do you know?”
“Words and noise.”
“Get me out of here.”
“You need to know how to wait.”
“I just got off work.”
“Who loves you?”
“Who wants to be loved?”
“Taste.”
“Lack of understanding.”
“Someone has this down so much more effectively than I do.”
“Did I say the right thing?”
“You really screwed up.”
“My goal is to get this done.”
“This could be my life.”
“Knock on this door.”
“What do you call a snack?”
“A clash of ideas.”
“Does anyone care?”
“I feel safe.”

“How did I get in here?”
 “You were invited.”
 “I want to look.”
 “You are looking.”
 “How can I explain it.”
 “I want that.”
 “I want that.”
 “I need to leave the house.”
 “I cannot leave the house.”
 “It is better than you know.”
 “You took your time.”
 “You escaped from yourself.”
 “I am successful at doing what I need to do.”
 “I had plans.”
 “My plans are good for me.”
 “We do have a narrator.”
 “That is good.”
 “This is where things go bad.”
 “Lincoln does not understand.”

Clara found herself both a spectator and a participant, navigating the fine line between reason and the triumph of the self.

“There is not that much going on in the mind.”
 “We could change that.”
 “We could change all that.”
 “I auditioned in the wrong way.”
 “You need to be right for the role.”
 “I am the creep.”
 “Clara seems to sanction that philosophy.”
 “I am trying to make sense of the balance.”
 “I do this for you.”
 “I truly messed up.”
 “What do you truly love?”
 “I need more spare time.”
 “Take it.”
 “Work it for what it is.”
 “I did not think that it would be so sudden.”
 “Why is this moment so important?”
 “You need a solution.”
 “We both are trying.”
 “What would be the best thing to do?”
 “I am not interfering.”
 “That is a new way of observing history.”
 “It is all over.”

“Over before it begins.”

“There is not genius here.”

“You make what you will.”

“I thought about it at home.”

“What is the home?”

“What is going on at your place?”

“I give too much of what I give.”

“That moment is already done.”

“What can we do here?”

“This will work for me.”

“Then it will no longer work for anyone.”

“I was waiting for you until I was no longer waiting for you.”

“She loves me.”

“You are planning for something that will never happen.”

“The water falls.”

“The selection.”

“The shading.”

“I could have more control.”

“How do you do this?”

How had reason degenerated into the pleasure principle?

“Everyone wants an advantage.”

“I wish that I understand with more authority.”

“Who is running this place?”

“Some guy.”

“You have a source, and he is revealing quite a bit.”

“Kiss me on the lips.”

“You do not understand the ins and outs of work. You transform the world, but you cannot enjoy all the fruits of your labor. That is the foundation of class consciousness. But you start to believe that you have greater individual control. This control depends on a real change in the system.”

“You are staring at my fantasy.”

“We look alike.”

“This is where it gets very scary.”

“All the time.”

“You have no control whatsoever.”

“That does nothing.”

“That is all that they have here.”

“Push it to the limit.”

“I am doing a lot more.”

“There is no down time.”

“I brought him with me.”

“And that makes a difference.”

“I want to get away from that.”

“I injected the poison into my veins.”
“That is the system.”
“We need more than a beat.”
“We need flair.”
“Come see me.”
“He is back.”
“We want different things.”
“I am taking care of you.”
“Why can that do anything?”
“I have been replaced.”
“You have gone to the majors.”
“It is all about pretending something that can never be anything.”
“Why should that affect me?”
“You need to learn how far you can push the body.”
“It is not about that?”
“She quit on me.”
“Where do I go to make it all happen?”
“It will all make sense.”
“I need to lock myself in a room.”
“I am going to need some assistance.”
“Assist me.”
“I am in the wrong place.”
“We are working out the philosophy.”
“I have got this.”
“I had a life before I came here.”
“What would that have been.”
“I don’t want to leave until it is all done.”
“And none of that made a difference.”
“Talk about something else.”
“You can’t help me if you can’t help yourself.”
“This is the end of the Enlightenment.”
“What about the principles of tolerance?”
“There are dangers.”
“The intolerance of intolerance.”
“A society divided from itself.”
“I have been waiting for the date.”
“Who knows?”
“She cannot know.”
“Clara is trying to find knowledge.”
“Surrender to time.”
“What does that ever mean?”
“Let me watch the evolution.”
“It all gets messy.”

“Do it to me!”

“I am in it for the long haul.”

“You are going to have to create your old life.”

“Think about the manifesto.”

“I am not really into pain.”

“Learn to hold on.”

“I am letting it all get out of control.”

“There is this idea that reason can be supreme. What interrupts its sway?”

“The excesses of the individual.”

“Do we realize what we are doing with our lives?”

“Is it a way of looking? Or are you trying to do more.”

Clara wondered if social awareness would lead to a more concerted individual commitment.

“We expect that we can deal with the worst influences in our lives. But we face real issues.”

“That is a forgotten moment.”

“Sade suggests that the ritual can motivate us to postpone immediate gratification. This enables the individual to explore more refined levels of stimulation.”

“Like a good wine.”

“And we lost our connection to reason and political activism.”

“But you can easily become distracted.”

“You are like an open book. Then everything is the same again and again.”

“The self becomes a trap.”

“Why didn’t I give you what you wanted.”

“Be honest, Clara. When you become frustrated, it only makes you more vulnerable to exploring the bizarre.”

“I shut out the world.”

“The world lives for you.”

“What will never be enough.”

“IT IS ALL ABOUT IMAGE.”

“I want it to be permanent.”

“I need a cure.”

Reason could be viewed as a form of physical existence.

“Do you get what you want?”

“I am looking for something that I need.”

“What if we escape our bodies?”

“Sade argues for the opposite idea.”

“We all run down.”

“ONLY DESIRE REMAINS.”

“I will find rescue.”

“It is all about belief.”

“AND YOU FIND SOMEONE WHO IS TOTALLY GIVEN TO FAITH.”

“Things are fucking up. You need to say: I quit.”

“Why now? I am on the verge.”

“All the stars align.”

“And your kid calls you in.”

“That is not my story.”

“It could be.”

“You need to say: I quit.”

“I am too much invested.”

“She will make it work.”

The writer wanted to concentrate on someone who was not so given to the ravages of time.

“The immortals.”

“The completely deluded.”

“You are so fucked up.”

“Look at my skin. What is happening to me?”

“You are into all that turning and twisting.”

“The anesthetic.”

“It does not hurt, but it feels so good.”

“How do you even know?”

“I have new parts.”

“That will not be enough.”

“We are so much the same.”

“DEVOTION TO DEATH.”

“That is the end of reason.”

“Do your ideas have an inherent immortality?”

“I am sick of people.”

“Embrace the leader.”

“We need to leave before we melt.”

“You made it perfect.”

“Not to last.”

“Cruelty gets pushed too far.”

“They claim that they are advocating for human rights, but they are the ones who dispense the cruelty.”

“It is almost time.”

“Make me right.”

“I am coming for you.”

：“Wake up.”

“Be ready!”

“There are no complex explanations.”

“Those who are in control are a bunch of sick individuals.”

“They are all dying. Their regime is coming to an end.”

“How can you say that?”

“Take a look.”

“Never take your vitality for granted.”

“You have predated the same thing again and again.”

“Mea culpa.”
“They are all doing it.”
“By appointment only.”
“This is what I want to see in time.”
“I erase the board.”
“Watch this.”
“He is living it.”
“Clara, you can’t do this anymore.”
“Read the manifesto.”
“I did.”
“We all know what we have and what we love.”
“What is in the book?”
“More scenes.”
“Why is this perverse?”
“What is going on in there?”
“They still get away with this kind of behavior.”
“It is not about reason. It is problem of imagination.”
“They are manipulating our memory.”
“We all want the same thing.”
“The same kind of reward.”
“BANG!”