

DUSK'S APOLOGY

Perhaps Dusk had offered an adequate defense. She had a lot to deal with. And she had done a great deal to try to explore the world. There was something was missing in the picture. What did she have to do to fill it in? How did Reunion become the graveyard for her ideals?

It wasn't supposed to be this way. She was supposed to find the inspiration to work out her challenges. Nevertheless, this immense obstacle now stood in her way. What could she do to overcome its influence? She consider these challenges this was enough in and of itself. It made her wonder. And it made her question herself. Why was she like this? It wasn't so much the idea of satisfaction. She was more turned on by the inclination. That was why she wanted an audience. She was looking for others who could pay tribute to her understanding. This gave her greater inspiration. And it made her believe that she had a power. In a sense she was adding intellect to her physical presence. But the two perspectives had very little to do with each other. She wasn't manifesting an idea. She wasn't developing that kind of thinking. It was just the opposite.

She only brought enough awareness to keep the game going. But there was really nothing about changing the form of interaction. In the back of her mind, she could cling to a more traditional view of the world . She could use the pleasure principle to enhance this view. In public, she could act out this conflict. That was all that mattered. There was nothing else. This seemed to cut its way into the whole Reunion project. There was this acceptance of a dominant culture at face value. Then there was this effort to turn any aspect of the underground into a performance that could be coopted in the same manner. Nothing really changed in this representation. The world manifested itself as it was. This reward of the crafty. It created this ideal, and it really had nothing to do with any kind of contestatory gesture. Sure, there was an outrageousness to her representation. And she embraced those artistic expressions, which seemed to be extreme in this way. There was an element of shock in this presentation. But there was very little theory. Even if she thought herself as a political radical, she was not using the culture the way to develop an assertive way of living. She would demonstrate her confidence. She would invite others to be just as daring. But what was the wager?

Indeed, things could get tricky since it was easy to get taken in by the suspense. It might seem dialectical in character. It was antithetical to what was going on in the environment. Nevertheless, these gestures could easily be absorbed into a dominant culture. It was the dominant culture entering the next phase of development. The only saving grace might be its desire to humiliate those who carried on an allegiance to the mainstream. But the intent was psychological, and the overall methodology was the meeting point. It wasn't about trying to root out a bad way of thinking. It was more a conflict among individuals. And she found herself right in the middle of this battle. She might've been more assertive. It was better to be a little scandalous. People can understand that. Reunion seemed harbor individuals who had just enough money to make it seem as if they were doing some thing original. It was a carbon copy of past movements. All these gestures had lost any kind of revolutionary appeal. But she could ally herself with all of them at the same time.

If anyone of these threats seemed to put her in jeopardy, she could cut it loose. She had no loyalty to any of these perspectives. This wasn't a feeling on her part. It was a way to protect

the self in a room where everything was entertainment. Thus, she could surround herself with others who would push the envelope. They would skirt the riskiest behaviors. None of that really slowed her down. She wasn't all that involved. She wasn't advancing a manifesto. She knew it all this meant. People were clinging to a past of which they had only a nostalgic connection. So she could easily dismiss these foundations if she wanted to create her own perspective. That was the foundation of this understanding. Everything enhanced her performance. Everything moved along since it was so easy. That was why she had her court.

If people wanted to follow her lead, so so be it. She claimed that she had developed enemies. And this was all part of her nature. Nevertheless, this was all a pose. What were any of these people detecting? What did they really care about? What did it have to do with her beliefs. This had very little to do with anything intellectual. It was visceral. It was fun. It was a way of whiling away the hours. To ask for something more would appear to be greedy. It would appear to be part of a moribund culture that failed to grasp the present generation. It was tricky.

This outlook could hold for a while. But it was all already fading. She could ally herself with those who were trying to guard this way of thinking. But what were they protecting? What was the goal? People had found a way to keep the party going permanently. She understood those moments when she would have to close things off. But she allied herself with people who were even more attached to the present reality.

They could use it as a cudgel. She had her skills. She had her talent. She had her blessings. What did anyone else have? She was in the first to take this stand. That was how the scene worked. It was as good as its best participant. So she could find talented people that could attest to her charm. All along, that seemed to be the primary source of talent. That seemed to be the root of enlightenment. It was just a matter of getting a vision and hammering it all out. What was she going to take? What did she need to do? There would be time. And there would be good times. Where else was there? She was not part of a philosophy department in a university. This was real life. This couldn't be compromised. It couldn't be created out of nothing. It existed in its integrity. It lived in this moment. That was all that mattered. So she embraced this possibility. It gave her a sense of motivation.

At one time this was enough. She had her deep awareness. She was a creative person. She did things. Where was the reward now. It was all about finding someone else who could carry on this legacy. That ingénue would look to Dusk to turn water into wine. For the time being, this was everything. This would be everything. That was why Nola was so valuable. Nola proved to be much more vulnerable. She could be manipulated. She could show her weakness. She could be sloppy. But it wasn't as if Dusk ventured deep into the culture. She didn't spend her days creating magnificent artwork. She enhanced her intentions. In some ways, she was even more defensive. She was holding on to something which wasn't meant to last. I would never give her the required support. But it was all about the pleasure principle. These short term successes were all rooted in the physical world. But there was no real analysis of the historical significance of any of these experiences. Everyone in the circle remained willfully ignorant about the society's dynamics. It made sense for Phoenix. And it made sense at Reunion. So what would it say about the rest of the world?

Sure, not everyone held to the same vision as Dusk. And Reunion proposed an alternative perspective. But Dusk was so adept at articulating her point of view. And her confidence seem to

count for so much more. At the end of the night, what else was there.

“As a writer, are you trying to diminish her capability because you lack awareness of your own? She’s been nothing but helpful to you. And you seem to be questioning her authenticity. What is the foundation for your outlook?”

This was her wonderful opportunity to create a new world. That meant a greater devotion to education. It wasn’t just learning in order to create positive results. She was becoming involved in the process. And she gave herself that experience but she realized that she could get more traction if she focused more on the results. And that made her more excited. In some ways, all that she had to do was digest these influences. That could give her the necessary momentum. From then on, she was on her own. She wouldn’t need much else. There were those who seemed to be part of her circle. They gave her strength. It gave her an audience. Why did that seem so important? In some ways, she didn’t want to accept what was to come. It might’ve seemed conventional at the same time; she had limited aspirations. She didn’t even realize that. She might’ve saw herself as some kind of celebrity. But there was no real plan to move from where she was to where she wanted to be.

What was necessary to give her more authority? She thought about these risks, and where they took her. And she wasn’t much different than anyone else she knew. She had solidified her identity. She smoothed over the rough edges, even though she might’ve seemed more formidable to the others. She wasn’t really looking for any kind of competition. She wanted things simple. She was looking for others, who had package themselves in pretty much the same way. This could give her added motivation. This could accentuate her act.

What could she really talk about it? There wasn’t really any cultural intent. Everything was about consumerism. Few of these objects were used to change the overall perspective. If there were artists, they were all very formulaic. Ultimately it was all decorative. This whole world was exactly that way. Under these circumstances, it was easier to mock others. She wasn’t trying to be mean. She admired respect and tenderness. But she didn’t want to let down her guard. It was a matter of carrying on with this mockery, This sentiment meant putting down others. Maybe that was necessary for the overall development. This kind of negativity could fuel a more positive outlook. At least, that was what she thought. She wasn’t grappling with forms or content. It was more about personalities; as such, everything was bigger than life. That made it all so strange and added to her allure. People loved to move things along.

If there was a secret here, it was almost the stuff of elementary school. Everyone filled in the blank workbooks. It was never really matter of new opportunity. This was pretty much the same situation again and again. Here, she was she could’ve rocked that boat. It was easier to rock the boat by making fun of others, but that changed nothing. In a sense, she was only expressing her own disquiet. How else could she describe her experience? How could she achieve enough independence for herself. This was not about a deep social analysis. She already had clear terms for understanding.

It was almost like a horror movie. All of the characters had an assigned role. This could even work for new people who entered the story. Everything could be shaped based on the same principles; it was all about trading flattery. Short term complements and long-term compliments-- nothing was meant to have any real validity. Everything was temporary. It all made sense. It made sense for everyone. This was part of her character. It wasn’t so much of a flaw. It was

almost as if she was flaunting her heroic nature. What did any of that mean? Why didn't any of that matter? She considered the alternatives. Where did any of us go? Where was it supposed to end up? Why did anyone bother anymore? Why did anyone bother? Could this have been someone else's story?

Dusk was much more confident. She wouldn't yield to anyone else. That was her strength. It could've been more than it was. This was an unfamiliar territory; it was one thing to have some vague understanding about what was going on in the world. It was quite another to create a social movement within a community. Reunion was a loose grouping of people. And there were some moments that there seemed to be a solid identification among some members of that group. That alone could've been the basis for defining a community experience. Surely, Dusk could've assumed an active role in such an endeavor. Despite her aspirations, and despite her apparent worldliness, she hesitated to take this decisive step. This wasn't so much her shortcomings. She had enough of a personal burden. It simply meant that the story couldn't be generalized to describe some thing of greater social impact. Indeed there was a potential for a major cultural shift.

Under the circumstances, everyone could feel that same energy. It was almost the myth that drove everyone along. But no one had the energy to finalize any kind of programmatic approach. There were artists and musicians. And they saw themselves as having some kind of historical awareness. But nothing was the earth-shaking here. Why should it be? What was going on? What was moving everyone forward? It was a basic desire. Dusk knew how to tap into it. At the same time, she seemed to watch it from afar. So she had her own influences. And she could make them work for her. This was how her life worked. That's why she took such a delight in the playfulness. She never saw the possibility for a more seismic shift. Everything operated on the short term. And that was that. What was her role in this overall situation? She was the sovereign. It was a culture that could only resolve its analytical approach in a limited way.

She could recognize the role of the observers in the process. But she knew how to push things and make it seem as if she was the center of the action. And she liked to get out before the shit hit the fan. Was her world really that protected? She gave so much credibility to these minor differences in an image, the fashion show. But she had none of the subtlety when it came to any kind of cultural expression. Everything was in broad strokes. There was a little sophistication. This meant that all emotions seemed to turn upon themselves. It wasn't us if she really had a protected space. It was just a privilege of what she was seeing all the time. It was almost worse. She had surrendered to an impulse over any kind of cultural dynamic.

At least at Reunion there was some tension to this expression. Reunion could allow for a more radical gesture. What did she want? What was her hope? It was worthwhile pursuing this analysis.

"You felt this severe sense of alienation. It's shook you to your core. And you needed some form of validation. Therefore, every compliment became more than it was. It became the access to a new world. And it let you treasure it. Moreover, you saw others who you believed could attract an even greater level of adulation. Instead of recognizing, the social forces that created such acceptance, you believed the access granted to you. From an intellectual and a social point of view, this outlook was totally unstable. How could a single value command such a high level of energy without disrupting the whole system? But things were not framed in this way.

That enabled you to understand what created this site, even if it was lacking in motivation. It only mad you feel as if you were helpless. But you could relate to others who saw things just this way. In fact, your insights were evident because of your sense of assertiveness.”

“What prevented Dusk from seeing with more probilty. Certainly, she had enough experience. But there was something that prevented her from achieving awareness. What was that? Why does she seem to be cut off from the world. It was worth examining her isolation.”

“Is this my story? It makes me wonder. She felt as if she was clued in. She had this artistic sensibility based on a sense of proportion. But it continued to exaggerate the power of the image. It obscured the actual political motivation and how economic factors could determine experience. She gave in to people who believed that they could exercise greater power than they actually did. This environment seemed to provide this kind of knowledge. In actual practice, the world was entirely different. What factors made things this way? How did people have the power to alter this situation? Dusk seemed to play a limited role in this understanding. She over exaggerated the symbolic awareness because she accepted it as some thing real. The image was meant to connect to a lasting relationship to productivity. This made an ongoing commitment to craft. Nevertheless, there were ways to frame this symbolic understanding that seemed to provide a more immediate reaction. Thus, the individual could believe that there was a greater reward available simply because everyone else seem to accept the same interactive model.”

“Such an expression faced critical review. She just felt that her own skills could make up for these gaps. And she dealt with actual situations where she was called upon to enhance her own understanding. Nevertheless, she wasn’t able to exercise a universal awareness which could account for all these complex situations. Her strategies could be explosive on the short term. This was almost like playing the lottery. A few small wins might make someone feel justification for her method. But it was impossible to game is kind of system. The only alternative would’ve been actual skills. She knew where to apply them. But the historical model was very limited. It was very much linked to recent successes. But it wasn’t really capturing the over-arching narrative. This seem to give precedence to be these symbolic representations. It was history as a costume drama. It was all about petty rivalries. There was a limited representation of social forces.”

“ Economics was only seen as a form of success, not as a social dynamic. All the while, Dusk claimed to be committed to a radical politics. But the radical politics seemed very much connected to lifestyle. It was a societal view that was based upon whims of the individual. In the ideal society, people could give into their whims. There would be enough resources to allow for such indulgence. This view contradicted an outlook based upon some kind of asceticism. This created a conflict. It was pretty clear where Dusk recognized her vision. She wanted the revolutionary ideal to manifest itself more effectively in the present. Thus, she could rely on her own talent. But it left a little place for a sustained practical program. It was impossible to sanction both perspectives.”

“Either a person needed more time to perfect the craft since these social experiences were meant to provide their own form of practical enhancement. This hardly ever occurred. But it placed a more favorable judgment on those who could offer a more stylized execution. In a sense, this was in a historical view that favored prodigy. Nevertheless, these were all participants who

had already passed their initial burst of success. Under these circumstances, the product mattered little. Nevertheless, without such a belief, this social model you couldn't be attached to the overwhelming character of the pleasure principle. It was not possible to take the time to break down these emotions to create a more productive vision. This only placed a greater emphasis on the short-term spectacles. And an occasional devotion to costume seemed to have more credibility than a lasting commitment to art. An artist could survive in this room by trying to dazzle others. But that dazzle lacked any real socioeconomic worth. It wasn't enough to be good. Without us a strict analysis, the individual lacked a clear motive for development."

"What else was I supposed to do? This is how I understood my own development. I needed to get strong. If somebody wanted to acknowledge my efforts I could welcome that. Where did the pleasure principle reach its inevitable limit. There was nothing independent about the assertion of the pleasure principle. It might seem to give credibility to the self these impulses. It could accommodate a kind of self interest. But everything was given. It was not only an acceptance of these feelings; it was a basic accommodation with a social order. And this was fundamental for Dusk's philosophy. It had little to do with the empowerment of the individual in a sustained direction. Instead it reinforced an acquiescence to this kind of thinking. The pleasure principle had nothing to do with giving in to total freedom. It did not create an emotion that could be developed by the individual over successive interactions. It caused people to accept a singular way of thinking. That might have seemed adequate for Dusk. But it left her completely exposed. She could talk about her performance. She could share this vision with others. And this was the very thing that characterized any kind of artistic project. There was a limited understanding of the form."

:"The self did not participate in a social construction. Instead the individual submitted. If the culture of Reunion provided the possibility for a collective liberation, this surrender to the pleasure principle did little for self. It left the self dependent on the main stream. In this room, financial success would seem to correspond with social skills. Or the social acumen advanced the self within the economic system. There would still be this promise. People could enhance their brand. And this would seem to provide some kind of deeper understanding. Here, she thought that she was at the forefront. But there was nothing that innovative about this experience was this a healing experience? Did they give power to the individual? What was missing? Why did the self seem helpless? Indeed, there were serious concerns about this presentation. This left Dusk wondering if she had attained a sense of personal liberation. Others could pattern themselves off of this kind of awareness. It was so evident. What was the source of the breakdown? There was this inherent tension, and it seemed to move things along what was the foundation for this understanding. If this knowledge worked itself out in the physical realm, why did it lack a real inside? It seemed like a celebration of habit. Art was meant to accompany as feeling but it didn't have any kind of independence to galvanize a social movement. This experience was social only to the degree that people had similar habits. But it did not empower them. It did not make the collective into something more active. It just realized that she was at the center of this process, and she was making it all at a go. She was adding greater felicity to this interaction. This gave importance to her contribution. Even though she seemed to disengage, her presence reinforced the same point of you. That was how it all worked. That was how it was meant to be. There's really no other way to see this. In a sense, everything just happened.

Everyone acted very hands off. It was almost as if things were meant to be just like this.”

“You are presenting Reunion in a very radical way. It is not simply a hangout for creative people. You are suggesting that the culture proposes a different perspective about creativity. The artist can play a key role in the transformation of society. Some people are looking for a refuge, but they do not go along with this radical vision.”

“The survival of the artist depends on a critical outlook about the culture. Thus, art is not simply imitative. It takes a step towards changing the conditions. Such a commitment becomes the foundation for addressing what happens everyday for the individual. The present circumstances give people an awareness, and it is important to discover how to advance this knowledge. The artist helps to realize this way of seeing. And art helps to sharpen this focus. This is a way of living, the concept. And the individual learns how to present this view to the world.”

“Reunion represented a casual way to expose people to these ideas by emphasizing the role of the artistic community. Some took a more radical view to these efforts. They struggled to assert themselves given the economic conditions. Their insights used Reunion as a platform for a more engaging outlook. This struggle has been represented as a cultural awareness, reflected in actions and individual habits. For those without the artistic commitment, they have experienced the social contradictions. Without the artistic support, they wanted the lifestyle to exhibit a more higher level of personal gratification.”

“Without a conscious engagement with the actual circumstances, the commentary is only incidental. Obviously, the artistic gestures can appear to be extraneous of the real struggle; nevertheless, change is needed. This can be grounded in the ways that people describe their lives.”

“This cultural encounter is a rare opportunity. This opportunity needs to be acknowledged and enhanced before people can move to the next phase. There are contrary cultural strains that may prevent any further movement, the so-called character of the generation. This is a reporter’s way of seeing things. It does not capture the rich dynamic that is possible under these circumstances.”

“Honestly, who gets it?”

“It all started with your own betrayal. Somebody turned you out. Someone did this to you. And you accepted your role. You might have done everything you could to control your participation. It was all about that. You submitted to the role. You felt rewarded accordingly. It was a total devotion to the symbolic image. And you accepted this in history. That would be enough for you. That would give you what you craved. And you would see you the same signs in others. They could just as easily give in. And you let them knowingly. Even, if they were blind, it was going on around them. You knew how to create just enough stimulation. And when you tried to escape, you recognized that you were just as trapped. You were all equally caught up in the same experience. This was what controlled your memory. It was all role-played upon the stature and belief. It went beyond the abstract. Others were familiar with the baptism in blood. And you had your own version of the ceremony. At no point could you say that you would not go along. During the service, there was no possibility of conscientious objection anyone. Everyone had committed to the same understanding. And that made everything moved along, and you loved it for it was a blessing. It was your power. You could see it in the contours of your face. You

recognized it in the outlines of your psychology, and it explained everything about your behavior and guaranteed this performance.”

“Could you require a more thorough analysis of the economic conditions? Could you even see it in that way. You weren’t really saving for anything because you believed that the throne would eventually be yours, and you could dictate the terms. It was that simple. There may have been risks, but you had all you lottery tickets. It was all your doing. It was nothing but you’re doing. And you told that story again and again. There was a danger in the rewrite that you would no longer have to admit your guilt. Honestly, there would no longer be any shame. You would accept what was going on even if you felt that it destroyed what you truly cherished.”

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“We are all so anxious about some thing over which we have a little control. We struggle to work it out. We struggle to find ourselves, but there is a little that we can do. We are lost in the pleasures of the moment. We become caught up in their appeals There’s no other way to find satisfaction. We lose our perspective. And it’s easy to claim that it is someone else who is messing it up for us. What arewe are doing to ourselves.”

“Is this your manifesto? It is is it based entirely on the will of the individual? What are you doing in order to change the situation? This becomes a social interaction. You are affected by what others do, and you make every effort influenced him. So these results are entirely social in nature. But you act as if you have independence. What is the basis for this confidence? What gives you the sensibility? Do you think that you are more than you are? What is the foundation of this belief? It’s all about the spectacle. That’s the most important thing for you. But it prevents you from connecting to your own experience. Everything is exaggeration. Nothing is based upon the actual social dynamics. This can become confusing since you think you know what’s going on. But you sustain the solution. And it creates its own negative consequences. How are you involved in this development? Think about original motivation. Making this way what pushed you to this recipe resolution you felt helpless. More than that.”

“You put yourself in situations where you thought you could find greater autonomy. People took advantage of your vulnerability. It’s so obvious. It didn’t take much. It only took a little push, and you imagined that you were in control and that same kind of attitude continues now. You claim that this is the foundation for your understanding. This is entirely something that you’re creating for yourself. You’re making these bizarre images seem as if they reveal something important. What is any of this about? Why does any of this matter to you? Almost like a horror movie. You’re not just watching the scene. You’re getting caught up in it. And you think that you’re escaping from the threat. A threat is everywhere. And it affects your actions. You believe it to be so much more. It’s not just about seeing something gruesome. It’s acting it out. It’s your reaction. It’s how you communicate to others. Everyone is immersed in the same confusing situation. You’re becoming enamored with half-truths. Make an offer a boost. It’s so easy to influence people who think this way. See yourself as superior. You’re in control. You’re royalty. You may be in touch with the real power. But it seems to fade. It does nothing for you.”

“Indeed, this is the trap. This is the challenge and you were lost among the synthesis. They seem to attack you. Little that you can do in your defense. What’s happening? You’re locked in your house. You can’t break the chains. The torture is within. You hate it, but you have

an affection for this kind of life. What pushed you to this point? What made you like this? Do you have any idea how you end up? Are you losing your integrity? Why did things work like that? It's happened to you."

"You're not the only one in this situation. It seems to aggravate this way of thinking and seen it before. If you want, you can pick up the sky. Do you know what he's all about? He looks for weaknesses of others. And you think that you're stringing him along. Honestly, why bother. There's nothing here. There will be nothing here. You take it as a form of flattery. But there's nothing flattering about it. This is someone trying to destroy you, and you're letting it happen. You're getting pulled along by this experience, and that only adds to your vulnerability at the end, what is there to show? Does anyone even realize what is occurring? What are the stakes? What can you get back in return? Can you even get your soul back?"

"Why do you think that you have a better understanding of my behavior? What makes you so different. Is it because you don't get what you want, and you're taking it out on us? Honestly, Dusk what do you want? Let's just say that I took myself completely out of the equation. In a sense, I'm not involved at all. So let's make this your story. You can tell me what you want, what turns you on, what open it all for you? What difference does it even make? Why should I bother. I wonder this. What are you fighting? Do you realize what's wrong with your situation. It's all too obvious to you. Why are you made this way? Why have things turned out for you in this manner? What does that even mean? And honestly, you're not the only one. What do you expect them to do for you. What can you even do for yourself? These are all abstractions."

"What do you want to know? What can I tell you about my situation? How can I describe the world? What's missing from this picture. You should understand. Indeed this becomes a critical question for all of us. It's not simply a matter of doing a job. What makes us believe that our contribution helps to create an artistic awareness. How can we move from an understanding of the contradictions in our own lives to developing this knowledge into a political awareness? This would mean understanding how work influences our development. If we simply see work as a negative experience then we cannot understand the liberating aspect of our lives. Of course, this is a difficult challenge. It's easy to get distracted by what occurs in our environment, and even in admitting to the crushing aspects of a job, we are still shaping the environment to support our needs. And this knowledge can be the motivation for social change."

"As long as we focus primarily on the alienation, we do not have the means to overcome those limitations. Sure we're facing challenges. But it's not good to fail to break down what is going on in actual production. This creates a challenge for the self. People assume that it is possible to interact with the world without changing it. Thus, they see any productive model as reinforcing subjugation. It doesn't work that way. People are always altering the world to support our needs. But we can do it in a more creative manner. Many arguments now focus on the sustainability of these activities; nevertheless, it is important to isolate the actual destructive powers existing in the society. This is not a matter of asceticism. You're not trying to restrict our own behaviors. Instead, we're finding ways to make these experiences formative for a new way of living."

"This requires a direct confrontation with the structures of power. It cannot work in any other way. That is what empowers political groups. They need to see how they are contributing to the positive transformation of the society. The artist can provide a basic understanding here. The

artist recognizes critical productive capabilities in the creative process. This can be generalized to describing other activities in the society. Any other model does not take into account how society has the foundation for change. This goes beyond any sense. It requires an actual analysis of these processes.”

“Dusk, how are you contributing to the efforts of the dominant culture. Spectacle seems to celebrate how art that accommodates key elements of exploitation. It’s almost as if exploitation becomes a spectacle. And you’re looking for others. It may not of been your intention. You may have seen yourself in a more radical way. How does that radicalism operate directly in the moment? How does it analyze your creative impulses? Is it easy to lose this commitment? Your motivation can become confused. We need to find a way to address these challenges. This can strengthen your own development. Are you willing to take the steps. It’s more satisfying for the will, but it is not built upon a model of gratification. It cannot even work. In some ways it’s unfortunate. It’s almost as if there’s a series of events that are triggered one after another, and you have no ability to influence what’s happening. You may try!”

“You may believe that you are operating with a critical understanding. But these things seem to get out of hand again and again. These small decisions become part of an agenda. And that enactment always seemed triumphant, and you welcome your triumphant nature. How can that result in a radical politics? How can that empower those who ask questions in this room. This is not all about flattery. This is not all about image. We create the images that support the world that we want to see do you even grasp that? I know it’s difficult. The alienation is severe.”

“Where is Lancer?”

“She was able to coordinate norms for society with government institutions. In other words, she could support her own beliefs by allowing her immersion in these organizations that sought to advance these norms. Dusk’s outlook was not that much different. She had developed this ideal for herself. She could reinforce through social interactions. Once she could advance this understanding; she could find support for them within her social circles. This became a complex situation. There were aspects of her own behavior that she felt somewhat unable to control. She was taken to this wonder. It made her feel strong. It actually supported this normative view of society. Even though she existed on the outside, she was attached to a committed way of thinking. Her sector of the world added understanding. This became complex understanding. This playfulness developed review. This seems to suggest that even the usual experiences at reunion only accommodated a traditional attitude on her part. This meant that it was possible to explore the *outré*.

“The individual was under the influence. Nevertheless, once the person became separated from this experience, it was possible to embrace the structures of culture. This was exactly the feelings of Lancer. Lancer’s ideology developed from a society riven by trauma. In order to deal with a trauma, individuals medicated themselves, but they never truly faced the deep contradictions in the society that were destroying their character. It was almost as if Lancer felt that she had a special pass. She could do whatever she wanted. Others would be punished for the same. But she was immune. And the same vision seemed acceptable to Dusk.”

“You’re making a bigger deal of this than it is. Sure, people have a visual sense. They have an appreciation of style. And it does represent some kind of resistance against their every day experience. But that doesn’t really turn it into a political movement. And you’re trying to

generalize into something that doesn't go along with how people are really living things. In fact, this kind of politics is actually a hindrance to developing any kind of constant understanding of what's going on in the world. This individual draws attention to the self. What is the basis for this?"

"It's not as deep as you make it. When you make it that deep, it only reinforces the culture that you are trying to escape from. We don't want to think of things in terms of current principles. We're living our lives. We're dealing with the real situation. By generalizing it, you're trying to take our actual situation out of our hands to make it work for something in your political understanding. But it doesn't work like that. It never works like that. It is what it is. And it's nothing less than that. Even your idea of cool is a throwback to another era. We can embrace anti-fashion. We live our lives in this confusing moment. You're trying to distillate into some kind of critical moment that advances your political philosophy. It doesn't work. It doesn't make sense of what's going on. I disagree. By eliminating any sense of critical awareness you're doing class consciousness. Anyone of these behaviors can be linked to a systematic understanding. We can all go back to what happens at the job. You're giving credibility to some thing at Reunion that doesn't exist. It never has. We don't pretend that it does. So why complain about the place changing. What are you defending? What's the culture that you feel has been encroached upon by these new people?"

"Why do they lack an understanding that you supposedly have? It could simply be that you're advancing your own cliques. You're advancing cultish loyalty to a way of thinking, and it has nothing to do with how people really live. I can appreciate that on some levels. Can I really endorse it? How can I deal with it? There are slight variations.. You can feel it. You know it's all about. What's the basis for this understanding where is it going?"

"Dusk identified with a culture that provided immediate gratification for the individual. If the dominant culture denied the self, the underground culture provided the means for a more intense level of gratification. Both in art and music, she expected that kind of representation. This intensity occurred within the present culture. It manifested itself in the moment. How else could it be viewed except as some kind of collaboration with the terms under which people were granted? Access to their experience. This could be taken further. The overall presentation was all about immediacy. In a sense, it mocked those who did not have that access. It was a new definition of the survival of the fittest. This was a culture that determined all levels of greatness. I could be used to sustain the belief. That only created greater pressure on Dusk. But she believed that this pressure was the key to her personal liberation. That's what she wanted a story to say. Not only did she have the means, but she realized them."

"There were others who tried. But we could mock them. Nevertheless, in a moment of mercy, we for gave him. How was this appraisal not a belittling of Dusk on perspective. It did not diminish her attributes; nevertheless, how was she using these abilities to improve her long-term situation. This did a little to create a supportive culture at reunion. Over drinks, people could talk about their own wonder. Nevertheless there was a little that sustained that understanding. The individual was lost in this situation. This wasn't about Aidan. How could some kind of care be developed within this experience? It just came down a great job at fortifying her own position. And she could've served as an example. When her systems seem to break down, she clung to this traditional view of society. She didn't want to see her self in this place in the future. What did

that say about her overall analysis? She was placing a greater faith in the efforts of the dominant culture to realize his dreams.”

Over time, her point of view would be ascendant, and she could make the requisite alliance as she was looking for. This was all that mattered for her. This was the essence of her outlook. She loved the spectacle. Everyone else was a spectator. And they were watching it from the outside. Was there really enough motivation to change the society? How did any of us move the vision along? This was the position of the status quo. It created an even more select group to attain the reward. It enabled people to fashion at their own version of the same perspective. These were individuals who spoke against the normative in character of dominant culture. But all they really knew that this method only created new norms. Nothing really changed.